

THE
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Observations on the phrase "Native Country."

[By Monsieur de VOLTAIRE.]

HAS a Jew, then, any native country? If he is born at Coimbra, he is born among a set of ignorant wretches, who will pestre him with absurd arguments, to which he would answer in terms as absurd, if he durst answer at all. He is watched by the inquisitors, who will burn him for refusing to eat bacon, and by that means become master of his property. Is Coimbra then his country? Can he be so passionately fond of Coimbra? Can he say as the Horatii in Corneille,

*Mon cher pays et mon premier amour :
Mourir pour lapatrie est une si digne
sort,
Qu'or briguera en foule une si belle
mort.*

Is Jerusalem his country? He has heard from some vague report that his ancestors, such as they were, inhabited that barren, rocky region, which borders on a miserable desert, and is now inhabited by the Turks, who get nothing by it. Jerusalem is not his country. He has no country, not a foot of ground that he can call his own.

The Geber, more ancient and more respectable than the Jew, the slave of the Turk, or the Persian of the Mogul, can he call a few

piles of stones, which he has erected secretly on the mountains, his country.

The Armenians, who pass their lives in wandering over the east, in the capacity of brokers, have these any country peculiarly dear to them? Their purse and their pocket-book is all the country they have.

In the European nations, all those murderers by trade, who let out their services, and sell their blood to the first prince that will pay them, have they any country? Not so much, surely, as the bird of prey that returns at night to the hole of the rock where his mother built her nest.

Shall the monks presume to say they have any country? Their country, they tell you, is heaven! And I am contented. I never knew they had any on earth.

With what propriety could a Greek make use of this term, *country*, who is ignorant that there ever were such persons as Miltiades and Agesilaus, and who knows only that he is the slave of a Janissary, who is the slave of an Aga, who is the slave of a Bashaw, who is the slave of a Vizir, who is the slave of a being whom he calls the Grand Turk.

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What is it then that man can properly call his country? Is it not a good estate, with a good house upon it, of which the possessor can say, these fields that I cultivate, and this house which I have built, are my own. I live under the protection of laws which no tyrant can infringe. When those, who, like me, are possessed

of lands and houses, assemble for their common interest, I am part of the whole, a part of the community, a part of the sovereignty.— This is my country. All else loses the idea of an habitation of men, and more properly may be termed a stable of horses, that, at the pleasure of the keeper, undergo the discipline of the whip.



SACRED BIOGRAPHY.

Delineation of the Characters of BOAZ and RUTH.

[From Hunter's Sacred Biography.]

IN Boaz which shall we most admire; his prudent attention to his own affairs, his winning condescension to his inferiors, or his pious acknowledgment of God in every thing? In his conduct to the forlorn stranger, we see a heart overflowing with benevolence, attending to minute circumstances, out-running the expectations, the very wishes of the person whom he means to oblige. Observe his delicacy, he recommends the solitary helpless female to the society and protection of those of her own sex, and by his authority guards her from the incivility and insults of the other. He aims at soothing her soul to peace; he would have her believe herself at home. The law obliged him to permit her to glean, but he makes a free will offering of much more; the liquor in the vessels, the food provided for the reapers, all is tendered to her with hearty good will. Ordinary minds feel ashamed at the sight of poor relations, deny them, turn away from them, hide their faces from their own flesh. True magnanimity thinks meanly of

nothing but vice, esteems worth, though clothed in rags, considers the revolutions which affect every thing under the sun, despises not the wretch of to-day, knowing that he may be obliged to change places with him to-morrow. Such an one was the wealthy owner of yonder happy field. The spirit of the master is diffused, it is felt over the whole extended domain. No jarring string mars their rural harmony, no contention reigns, but the strife, the blessed strife, of mutual affection and attachment.

The character of Ruth opened upon us with singular grace and beauty: it unfolds itself with equal energy and propriety. She discovers from first to last, a soul susceptible of tender and persevering attachment; ready to yield the sacrifice of ease, of rank, of estimation, of every thing, for the sake of enjoying the testimony of a good conscience, and the society that she loved. She discovers a spirit at once sweetly timid and bashful, and nobly resolute and undaunted. She inspires love by her gentleness, meekness, and complacency;

placency ; she commands respect by her firmness, magnanimity and patience. In addressing her mother-in-law, she is all amiable warmth and earnestness ; in replying to the friendly tenders of Boaz, she is all amiable reserve and modesty. In speaking to Naomi her heart flows to her lips, her words glow, her speech is copious and redundant : In answering a man, and a stranger, her words are few, she speaks by looks and gestures, and is then most eloquent when she says nothing.

I behold the effect which youth, and simplicity, and humbleness of mind, and distress have made upon a generous and sensible heart. The artless simplicity of the Moabitish damsel made a deeper impression, than all that cunning and design could have invented to allure affection, and impose on the understanding. Happily the progress of virtuous love advances without the consciousness of the parties concerned ; it is at first a mere intercourse of civility, an attention to trifles, an interchange of kind words and pleasant looks. It grows unperceived, it gathers strength by neglect, it has arrived at maturity before it was known to exist, it gave no warning of its approach, and thereby became irresistible. And has the great Author of nature vouchsafed in his word to delineate, in more than one instance, the nature, progress, and effects of this important and necessary passion, and shall we turn away from it with affected delicacy, or take it up and pursue it with indecent mirth ? No, if we adopt and imitate the candid, guileless simplicity, and the modest reserve of scripture, we cannot greatly err.

In the case of Boaz and Ruth, it was enchantingly grateful to the former, as highly honourable to the latter, that the decision of the understanding confirmed the judgment of the eyes. He had known, admired, and approved the conduct, before he had seen and admired the beauty of the person, and the gracefulness of the behaviour. The charms of wisdom, virtue, and piety, superadded to personal accomplishments, what a happy combination ! what a foundation of felicity ! The latter, indeed, will and must fade, but their effect is immortal ; the company in which they flourished and brought forth fruit, bestows on them a permanency not their own. How wretched is that female all whose consequence is fled with her bloom ; who depended on rank or fortune to command respect ; who has lost the admiration and applause of others, before she has begun to acquire the dignity of self-approbation, the only genuine source of public esteem ?



The Story of IRENE.

[From Vertot's History of the Knights of Malta, vol. II.]

“ ONE of the greatest enemies to the order of St. John, was a young prince, scarce one and twenty, whom nature and fortune, joined to the most daring courage, rendered formidable to the whole world. His ambition was even greater than his birth, and more unbounded than his empire. He possessed all the highest talents, had immense views, an admirable

admirable genius for seizing the proper time to execute his projects, was always attentive, always present to events, never lost sight of the strength and designs of his enemies, was insatiable of glory and pleasure, void of faith, humanity, religion; he no more regarded the Koran than the Gospel, and, according to his principles, the only deities that deserved the worship of mankind, were fortune and courage.

Such was Mahomet II. who early assumed the name of Al Biuch, or Mahomet the Great, a title which has since been confirmed by posterity. If we judge only by his conquests, he indeed deserved it; but among sovereigns, there are virtues which ought to be preferred to valour, and piety and justice alone can render a prince truly great; virtues unknown to Mahomet, or which he thought it convenient to practise only in a few particulars.

Nevertheless, the death of Amurath, and the succession of Mahomet to the Ottoman empire, were no sooner known, than ambassadors from the emperors of Constantinople and Trebizand, and from most of the princes of Greece and of the east, as also from the order of St. John, hastened to the Porte. All these ministers, after the compliments usual on such occasions, eagerly demanded a confirmation of the former alliances concluded by the princes, their masters, with the Ottoman court. Mahomet, either dazzled by the charms of unlimited power, or intending to impose on the ambassadors, received them with an affected joy, and renewed, without scruple, the treaties whose confirmation they desired. But as the conquest of Constantinople was

the first object of his ambition, he employed all the ensuing year in making, privately, the preparations necessary for so great an enterprize, and in securing all the passes that led to that capital of the east, in order to intercept the supplies which the Greek emperor might procure, either by land or by the Black (or Euxine) Sea.

With this design he caused a fort to be built on that side of the Bosphorus which belongs to Europe. The emperor Constantine, alarmed at this enterprize, sent ambassadors to him to complain of it as an infraction of those treaties of peace which he had just renewed. Mahomet answered them immediately, with seeming moderation, 'That he had only built this fort to oppose the incursions of the knights of Rhodes, who were enemies to the Greeks as well as to the Turks, and to shelter the subjects of both empires from the irruptions of the Latins.' But the ambassadors beginning to insist on the fidelity with which that order observed their treaties, Mahomet, transported by his passionate temper, commanded them to be silent, and swore, 'that the first who dared to say any more should be dead alive.'

After this declaration, and without keeping any terms, he ordered his troops to march and invest the capital of the Greek empire, and began one of the most remarkable sieges that are recorded in all the history of the lower empire.

The sultan arrived in the camp the 2d of April, 1453; 'tis pretended that he had in his army at least 300,000 men, without reckoning a numerous fleet, composed of 250 vessels of different burthens, containing 24,000 men. In order to resist such a formidable force, there

there could scarce be mustered at Constantinople 6000 Greeks in arms, and about 3000 foreign troops and volunteers ; which must appear astonishing, considering the size of that city, and the prodigious number of its inhabitants.— But these were no longer the Greeks so renowned of old for their valour and love of their country : their attention was totally engaged by commerce. Constantinople was only filled with merchants, without reckoning a great number of monks and friars, most of them avaricious, who, instead of assisting their sovereign, buried their money in the most retired places. No wonder then, that Constantine, destitute of troops, and without supplies, could not long withstand the attacks of the Infidels. In spite of all the resistance of the Christians, the city was taken by storm the forty second day of the siege.

The emperor chose rather to die in the defence of his crown and his religion, than to fall alive into the hands of the Turks. There never perhaps was a scene more dreadful and more affecting than what passed at the taking of this city. Above 40,000 men fell by the edge of the sword ; 60,000 were sold for slaves : Nothing escaped the fury or avarice of the soldiers.

The women detested that fruitfulness which had made them mothers, and bewailed, with tears of blood, the fate of their infants whom they held in their arms.— Numbers of young virgins might be seen, perplexed and fearful, not knowing whither to fly, who wandered about like unhappy strangers, even in the bosom of their own country ; and, in seeking their parents, fell into an a-

bys of misfortunes, and into the hands of those barbarians where they found a reception more dreadful to them than the most cruel punishment. Neither their tears, nor their cries, invoking heaven, could move the compassion of the insolent conqueror ; and the most consummate beauty became a prey to the meanest Turk, though it was often taken from him by another who had more strength, or more authority in the army. Most of these barbarians traded with their prisoners, but by the sultan's order, those persons of distinction, those princes and officers, who had been taken in arms, were led to execution : None escaped his cruelty except the young and most beautiful of both sexes, whom he reserved for the abominations of his seraglio.

Thus it was that a Greek lady of illustrious birth, named Irene, scarce seventeen years old, fell into his hands. A bashaw had just made a slave of her, but struck with her uncommon beauty, he thought her worthy of being presented to the sultan. The east had never seen a form so perfect ; her charms were most irresistibly felt by the fierce heart of Mahomet ; he was forced to yield to them ; he even gave himself up to this new passion, and in order to be the less interrupted in his assiduous amour, he passed many days without suffering himself to be seen by his ministers, and the principal officers of his army. Irene followed him afterwards to Adrianople, where he fixed the residence of this young Greek. As for himself, wherever his armies marched, and frequently even in the midst of his most important expeditions, he left the conduct of them

them to his generals, and eagerly returned to Irene. It was soon discovered that war was no longer his ruling passion; the soldiers, accustomed to pillage when they followed him, murmured at this alteration. These murmurs became contagious; the officers as well as soldiers complained of this effeminate life: Nevertheless, his fury was so dreaded, that no one dared to mention it to him. At last, just as the discontent of the army was on the point of breaking out, the bashaw Mustapha, attentive only to the duty which he owed his master, was the first who apprized him of the discourse which the janissaries publicly held to the prejudice of his glory.

The sultan, after having remained some time in a gloomy silence, as if he would examine with himself what course he should take, by way of answer, and under the pretence of a review, ordered Mustapha to cause the bashaws to assemble the next day, together with such troops as formed his guard, and were in the neighbourhood of the town, he went afterwards into the apartment of Irene, with whom he remained till the morning.

That young princess had never appeared to him so charming; the sultan also had never caressed her with such tenderness. To add, if possible, new lustre to her beauty, he exhorted her women to employ all their skill and all their attention to adorn her person. After she was ready to appear in public, taking her by the hand, he led her into the midst of the assembly, and pulling off the veil that covered her face, he fiercely demanded of the bashaws that surrounded him, if they had ever seen a beauty more accomplished. All these of-

ficers, like good courtiers, gave a loose to the highest encomiums, and congratulated him on his good fortune. Mahomet, then taking in one hand the hair of the young Greek, and with the other drawing his sabre, with one stroke made her head fall at his feet, and turning towards the grandees of the Porte, with looks wild and full of rage, 'this sword,' he cried, 'can cut, whenever I please, the bonds of love.'

A murmur of horror ran through the whole assembly; the most mutinous trembled, dreading the same fate; every one believed he saw that fatal weapon brandished over his head: But if at first they escaped his sanguinary disposition, it was only to make his vengeance more sure. Mustapha, in return for his faithful counsel, was sacrificed the first, on a slight pretence; the sultan causing him to be strangled in the seraglio; and, in those wars in which he was afterwards engaged, and which continued as long as his reign, he had the cruel satisfaction of destroying, one after another, the greatest part of those janissaries, who, by their seditious clamours, had interrupted his pleasures and roused his fury.



Horrid effects of Ecclesiastical Power.

THE Rev. Dr. Leighton, in king Charles I. time, having published a book called, *Zion's plea against prelacy*, he was soon after, without any information upon oath, or any proof that he was the writer of the book, arrested by two High Commission Pursuivants, as he was coming out of Black-Friars church from hearing

2 sermon, and with a multitude of slaves and bills they dragged him to the house of Dr. Laud, then bishop of London, where he was kept till Dr. Laud and Dr. Corbett, bishop of Oxford, came with their attendants. Dr. Leighton then demanded a hearing; but instead of that the goaler of Newgate was sent for, who came with a strong power of halberts and staves, and clapping Dr. Leighton in irons, they carried him through a blind subterraneous passage to Newgate, where they thrust him into a loathsome dog-hole full of rats and mice, which had no light, but what came through a little grate, there the roof being uncovered, the snow and rain beat in upon him. He had no bedding, nor any place to make a fire, but the ruins of an old smoaky chimney. There he was kept without meat or drink from Tuesday night to Thursday noon. In that doleful place and condition was he kept close, with two doors fastened upon him, for the space of fifteen weeks; and so long they suffered no friend to come near him. But after fifteen weeks, his wife, and she alone, gained admittance.

On the fourth day after his commitment, the High Commission Pursuivants went to his house, under pretence of searching for Jesuits books. There, these sons of plunder, laid hold of his distressed wife, and used her with such barbarous inhumanity and indecency as it is a shame to express. They rifled every person in the house, and held a pistol to a boy of five years of age, threatening to shoot him, if he would not tell where the books were, which so affrighted the poor child, that he never recovered his senses all his days.

They broke open presses, chests, and boxes, and destroyed every thing at pleasure. They robbed the doctor's house, and carried off all the books and manuscripts they could find. At the end of fifteen weeks, or something more, he was brought into the Star Chamber Court, and required to put in an answer to a long invective, called an information; which he did to the satisfaction of all unprejudiced persons. He owned the writing the book, but said that it was done with no ill intention; his design being to lay these things before the next parliament, for their consideration. Things were carried with so high an hand, that no council dared to plead for him, nor any body to appear in his behalf. It is supposed, upon good grounds, that poison was given him in Newgate; for his hair and his skin came off in a distemper, which was attended with loathsome symptoms. But notwithstanding a certificate was given under the hand of four physicians, and an affidavit made by an attorney, that his disease was desperate and it was unfit to bring him into court; yet nothing would serve Laud, but in the midst of that desperate disorder, and great distress the following sentence was passed upon him, though absent; and the court unanimously decreed, June 4. 1630, 'That Dr. Leighton should be committed to the prison of the Fleet for life, and pay a fine of 10,000l. (though they knew he was not worth so much) that the high commission should degrade him from his ministry, and that then he should be brought to the pillory at Westminster, while the court was sitting, and be whipped; after whipping, be set upon the pillory, and have one of his ears cut off,

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one side of his nose slit, and be branded in the face; that then he should be carried back to prison, and after a few days be pilloried again in Cheapside, and be there likewise whipped, and have the other side of his nose slit, and his other ear cut off, and then be shut up in close prison for the remainder of life. Bishop Laud pulled off his cap when this horrible sentence was pronounced, and gave God thanks for it.

Nov. 26, part of the sentence was executed upon him, and that in a most tremendous manner, the hangman having been plied with strong drink all the night before, and likewise threatened if he did not execute the sentence in a cruel manner. When he came to the place of execution, besides other torments, his hands were tied to a stake, where he received thirty-six stripes on his naked back with a triple cord, every lash whereof brought away the flesh. Then he was set in the pillory, in which he stood almost two hours in cold frost and snow. While he was in the pillory, one of his ears was cut off, one of his nostrils slit, and one cheek branded with a red hot iron, with the letters S. S. (a sower of sedition.) After that, he was remanded back to prison; and the next cruel handling of him we may take in the words of Bishop Laud, who hath recorded it in his Diary, as well as the foregoing treatment. 'On that day le'night his sore upon his back, ears, nose, and face, being not yet cured, he was whipped again at the pillory in Cheapside, and had the remainder of his sentence executed upon him, by cutting off the other ear, flitting the other side of his nose, and branding the other cheek.' Being by this terrible

suffering rendered unable to walk, they would not suffer him to be carried back to the Fleet in a coach, but hurried him away by water. In the Fleet he went through much harsh and cruel usage for the space of eight years, so that when he was afterwards released from it by the parliament, he could hardly walk, see, or hear.



The test of Goodness—An Apologue.

REAL goodness consists in doing good to our enemies. Of this truth, the following apologue may serve for an illustration.

A certain father of a family, advanced in years, being desirous of settling his worldly matters, divided his property between his three sons.

Nothing now remains (said he to them) but a diamond of great value; this I have determined to appropriate to which ever of you shall, within three months, perform the best action.

His three sons accordingly departed different ways, and returned by the limited time. On presenting themselves before their judge, the eldest thus began.

Father, (said he) during my absence, I found a stranger so circumstanced, that he was under a necessity of entrusting me with the whole of his fortune. He had no written security from me, nor could he possibly bring any proof, any evidence whatever of the deposit: Yet I faithfully returned to him every shilling. Was there not something commendable in this action?

Thou hast done what was incumbent on thee to do, my son, (replied

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(replied the old man) : the man who could have acted otherwise were unworthy to live ; for honesty is a duty ; thy action is an action of justice, not of good.

On this the second son advanced.

In the course of my travels, (said he.) I came to a lake, in which I beheld a child struggling with death : I plunged into it and saved his life, in the presence of a number of the neighbouring villagers, all of whom can attest the truth of what I assert.

It was well done : (interrupted the old man) you have only obeyed the dictates of humanity.

At length the youngest of the three came forward.

I happened (said he) to meet my mortal enemy, who, having bewildered himself in the dead of night, had imperceptibly fallen asleep upon the brink of a frightful precipice. The least motion would infallibly have plunged him headlong into the abyss ; and though his life was in my hands, yet, with every necessary precaution, I awaked him, and removed him from his danger.

Ah, my son ! (exclaimed the venerable good man, with transport, while he pressed him to his heart) to thee belongs the diamond—well hast thou deserved it.



Extraordinary Effect of a Fall in the Cure of an Epilepsy and Idiotism.

[From the French Memoirs.]

RELATION I.

A CHILD, about eight years old, near Lisle, in Flanders, who was subject to epileptical fits, happened, upon his being seized with one of them, to fall back-

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ward, so as to receive a violent blow on the hinder part of the head, which produced a compound fracture, including the superior part of the occipital, and part of the parietal bone : The head was trappanned in two places, by which the splinters were easily taken away ; the wound, after being long kept open, was at length perfectly healed, and the epilepsy, except one or two slight fits during the cure, never returned.

It sometimes happens, that when children are epileptic, they perfectly recover about the age of puberty, by the extraordinary change which then takes place : Nature seems then to acquire a new energy, in order to give the individual its greatest possible perfection, and subdue whatever resists its salutary operation : But, in this case, the cure must have been the consequence of the fracture, for the patient had not arrived at the age of puberty by many years : It was probably effected by the purulent running, which continued a long time before the vent was formed by the trapan, and the separation of the splinters were closed : It is, however extremely difficult to determine why this discharge was salutary ; are we to suppose, that it removed the cause of the epilepsy, by lessening the quantity of matter contained in the brain, and so diminishing the pressure of its parts ? or was some foreign substance discharged by the wound which had caused that disorder ? these questions are proposed to the learned for a solution.

RELATION II.

A YOUNG man of Roubaix, a town near Turcoin, who had been an idiot from his infancy,

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cy, happened to fall so as to receive a violent blow a little on one side of the hinder part of his head; the blow occasioned a fracture of many angles, including the inferior part of the parietal, and the posterior part of the temporal bone, as far as the root of the mastodial apophysis, as appeared by an inspection of the splinters that came away by trepanning the skull in two or three places.

The wound being cured, the friends of the patient perceived, with inexpressible astonishment and pleasure, that the faculties of mind began to display themselves; that his understanding improved every day, and that, in a short time, he was quite upon a level with others of his rank; and he has many years belonged to a bleaching ground, the business of which he transacts with as much intelligence and dexterity as any other workman.

Our total ignorance of the formation of those parts of the brain which are essential to the exercise of the functions of the soul, makes it impossible to determine whether the concussion of the fall, by changing the disposition of any parts of the brain, or the discharge from the wound and trepan, produced the happy effect that has been related: It may, however, be concluded, from this and the preceding case, which are not without precedent, that the most diligent attention to this branch of anatomy is highly necessary: The time, perhaps, may come, when judicious observations upon a number of these cases may throw such light upon the subject, from the variety of their circumstances, as to encourage so bold an operation as opening the cranium for

the relief of some deplorable defects and disorders which are now deemed incurable.



Account of SPILLARD'S Travels.

London, Dec. 31, 1795.

A FEW days ago arrived in town from Halifax, in Nova Scotia, Mr. Spillard, the celebrated pedestrian traveller, so frequently mentioned in the European and American publications. This singular character has been out near twelve years, and has travelled on foot, during that time, the distance of 69,000 miles and upwards, through all Europe, a great part of Asiatic Turkey, through Barbary, up to Maoquinez and Fez, in Morocco, and through the Arabs country.

Being desirous to add America to the other three quarters of the world, he took passage from Gibraltar about six years ago, for Boston, and has travelled, during that time, through all the United States, through East Florida, and from the river St. Mary's, through the wilderness to the lower and upper Creek nation, where he was kindly received by his friend Colonel Magillery. Being protected by him, he remained there for a considerable time, and was furnished by that gentleman with notes of that nation, of Indian manners and customs. From the Creeks he visited the Chickasaw, Cherokee, and Choctaw nations of Indians, and was always present at their counsels and talks.

From the Creek nation he proceeded to Pensacola, in East Florida, where he procured letters of recommendation from Gov. O'Neal, in the Spanish service, and also

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from Mr. William Panton, merchant of that place, to the Baron de Carondelet, at New Orleans, the present governor of Louisiana, who, contrary to Mr. Spillard's expectation, as well as those of his friends, very politely received him, and not only gave him a general passport, but likewise letters of recommendation to the governor of the Natchez, and to all the commandants of districts and outposts in this extensive province.

Mr. Spillard's intention being to go up the Missouri River, to its source, he set out from New Orleans, accompanied by some gentlemen, who would insist upon seeing him as far as the post of the Walnut hills. There he crossed the Mississippi River, with six men in his company, and went up till he came to the confluence of the Missouri with the Mississippi. Having gone up the Missouri, a distance of more than 3000 miles, he fell in with six white hunters from the Osichita river, who advised him not to attempt going up any farther, as they themselves were out three years hunting, and lost all their peltry and horses, and narrowly escaped with their lives from the Ouza Indians, these Indians never give any quarter to either red or white men; and that the party who went up that river to explore it, under Gov. Mure's directions, were all killed.

Thus deterred, he came down to Nachtz, and soon after came down the Mississippi, till he came to confluence of the Red River, the source of which he was determined to find out, at all events. He accordingly went up as far as Aenoilise, where he parted with his canoe, and struck off to Oppalusa, which, as well as Atakapan and New Ibera, he carefully ex-

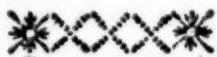
amined. Here he struck across the mountains to Nachitoches, which is the last Spanish port upon the Red River. Previous to leaving New Orleans, the governor gave him letters to the governor of the province of Thikofs, in New Spain, where he arrived at the city of St. Antoine in a month after his departure from Nachitoches. The governor, Dr. John Curtefs, received him politely, and after resting a few days, gave him a small guard as an escort to the south mountain of Santafee. Here he fell in with the south branch of the Red River, which he continued down till he came to the north branch, and so continued along its banks in the great plains till he came to the Pawnee nation of Indians, and so on to the Cansee Indians, continuing his route till he arrived again at Nachitoches, and so down to the mouth of the river.

Mr. Spillard is the first person who has ever taken a draft of this river from its source, from the mountains of Santafee to its junction with the Mississippi, a distance, with its windings, little short of 4000 miles.

We are sorry to hear that this gentleman, in attempting to get to England, has been twice captured by French privateers, out of Charleston, and stripped of everything valuable about him, but had the good fortune to save his journals and notes, which are intended shortly for publication. He came to England in his majesty's ship *Thistle*, through the recommendation of his royal highness Prince Edward, at Halifax.

There are many rivers which fall into the Red River, such as the Ealse Guchera, Muddy River, the Acomashee; or the river of the

the Mine ; Little River, and Black River, with the Oncheta, fall into it just twenty leagues from the Mississippi. The Red River water is very unwholesome, from its salt taste ; it is also very muddy and rapid.



Anecdotes of the king of Prussia.

WHILE the king was at Glatz, a town of Bohemia, which he had lately taken, he heard that the countess of Grunn, who was married to a lieutenant colonel of the garrison, had vowed a fine suit of cloaths to the Madona of the Jesuits, in case the blockade of the town was soon raised, he bought as many yards of the finest stuff that could be found, as was necessary to make a large robe for the virgin, and sent a message to the gentlemen of the society, acquainting them, that being informed of the fruitless vow the countess had made, and knowing his men better than she, he did not intend that our lady should be a loser, and therefore offered her in reality, what Madame de Grunn had promised her in vain. The Jesuits were charmed, and came, in great formality, to return his majesty thanks ; flattering themselves, perhaps, that this was a step towards his becoming their proselyte.

Col. Fouquier, having entered Cremnitz with six companies of grenadiers, had placed a sentry on the wall, near the house of a parish priest. The good man, finding himself much disturbed by the frequent repetition of *Qui va là ?* which the sentry pronounced, with a loud voice, every quarter of an

hour, resolved to make the soldiers weary of this post, and with this view contrived to mask himself like a devil ; accordingly horns, claws, the serpent's tail, cloven feet, and the fork, were got ready, and our priest, having equipped himself to his own satisfaction, and like a real devil, began to act his part, by advancing towards the centinel, and, at every step, scratching the wall with the fork. The grenadier began to feel some tremors, but did not leave his post. He stooped short, till the devil coming too near, and presenting the three points of his fork, cried out, with a hoarse voice, Thou shalt die by my hand ; then the soldier got the better of his fears, and boldly cocked his musket. The spectre heard the click of this fatal instrument, and of a sudden losing all confidence in his fork, and the whole of his apparatus, recoiled, and wanted to save his honour by a slow retreat. The grenadier, on the contrary, having once made free with this imaginary devil, followed him close, and saw him enter the house of the curate, by a little back door. Upon this he called to his assistance some of his companions, who were not a great way off ; and they coming readily to his relief, the door was quickly forced open, and belzebub seized with all his infernal habiliments, before he had time to put them off. As soon as he was taken, he was conducted to the nearest post, whence he was next day transported to the main guard, and flogged like a poor devil, in the sight of the whole town. The clergy made a great noise about this affair ; but the colonel giving them to understand, that the worthless Levite had, by this impudent masquerade, insult-

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ed the garrison, and consequently all the king's troops, matters were made up in such a manner, that the poor curate was shut up in a convent to do penance, and the clergy paid a fine of ninety ducats, of which each company had fifteen,

to purchase them black spatterdash-
es. Every body thought this ad-
venture very diverting, and the
soldiers said to one another, that
the devil had taken pains to pro-
vide them with spatterdashes.



AMERICAN BIOGRAPHY.

Sketch of the Character of the late Gen. THOMAS NELSON.

GEN. NELSON, as a man, a citizen, a legislator, and a patriot, exhibited a conduct untarnished, and undebased, by sordid or selfish interests—and strongly marked with the genuine characteristics of true religion, sound benevolence, and liberal policy. Entertaining the most ardent love for civil and religious liberty, he was among the first of that glorious band of patriots, whose exertions dashed and defeated the machinations of British tyranny—and gave to united America, freedom and independent empire. At a most important crisis, during the late struggle for American liberty, when Virginia appeared to be designated as the theatre of action for the contending armies, he was selected by the unanimous suffrage of the legislature, to command the virtuous yeomanry of his country, in which honourable employment, he remained till the end of the war. As a soldier, he was indefatigably active, and coolly intrepid. Resolute and undaunted in misfortunes, he towered above distress—and struggled with the manifold difficulties to which his situation exposed him, with constancy and courage.

In the memorable year of 1781, when the forces of the southern British army was directed to the immediate subjugation of that state, he was called to the helm of government. This was a juncture, which, indeed, tried men's souls—he did not avail himself of this opportunity, to retire in the rear of danger—but on the contrary took the field at the head of his countrymen—and at the hazard of his life, his fame, and individual fortune—by his decision and magnanimity he saved not only his country, but all America from disgrace—if not from total ruin. Of this truly patriotic and heroic conduct, the renowned commander in chief, with all the gallant officers of the combined armies, employed at the siege of York, will bear ample testimony. This part of his conduct, even cotemporary jealousy, envy, and malignity, were forced to approve.

If after contemplating the splendid and heroic parts of his character, we shall inquire for the milder virtues of humanity, and seek for the man—we shall find the refined, beneficent, and social qualities of private life—through all its forms and combinations—so happily

happily modified, and united in him—that in the words of the darling poet of nature, it may be said,

*His life was gentle, and the elements
So mix'd in him, that nature might
stand up,
And say to all the world, this was a
man.*



Short Account of the Life and Character of THOMAS HUTCHINS, late Geographer-general to the United States.

HE was born in Monmouth county, New Jersey. His parents dying while he was young, an unconquerable diffidence and modesty would not permit him to apply for protection or employment to his relations, who were very respectable at New York, and would have been ready to assist him. He rather chose to seek some business; and accordingly, before he was sixteen, went to the western country, where he was soon appointed an ensign, and paymaster-general to the forces there. After some time he became deputy-engineer, and soon distinguished himself at Fort Pitt, the plan of which he laid out, and which was executed under his command, by order of Gen. Bouquet, an account of whose transactions and campaigns was drawn up and published by him in Philadelphia in 1765.

He afterwards lived a number of years in Louisiana, during which time the accurate observations and remarks made on the country in general, rivers, harbours, &c. and the manners of the people, are sufficiently shewn in the description which he published of that

country, a few years ago, and is the best extant. After a variety of battles with the Indians, while he was with the army in West Florida, he rose, solely by merit, to a captain's commission, which he enjoyed a number of years, until his love for America obliged him to give it up.

Being in London when the war broke out, he staid there till 1779, when he published his map and pamphlet explaining it. His zeal for the cause of the United States made him refuse a very profitable employment then offered to him, at the same time requesting leave to sell his commission, which was not granted. His abiding steadily in his resolution not to take up arms against his native country, was probably the cause of the number of misfortunes he met with, and the ill treatment he received from an obstinate blindfold administration.

For holding a supposed correspondence with Dr. Franklin, then our ambassador at the court of France, he was thrown into a dungeon, his papers seized, and he lost 12,000*l.* in one day. After lying six weeks in this horrid place, during which time not one spark of light was admitted into his cell, and having undergone a long examination before Lords Amherst and Sandwich, and the rest of the execrable junto which ruled at that time with unlimited sway, he was liberated: and having resigned his commission, he passed over into France, where he staid some time to recruit the debilitated state of his body. He then sailed from L'Orient to Charleston, where he joined the southern army under Gen. Greene: but not long after this, the war closing, he was appointed geographer-general to the

United

United States, which employment he held till his death, which happened at Pittsburg, the 20th of April 1788.

He was esteemed and beloved by all who had the happiness of knowing him. He was remarkable for his piety and charity, a complacency of temper, patience, and resignation under sickness, and an universal benevolence, which so eminently distinguished him, that all join in declaring him to have been "an Israelite indeed, in whom there was no guile."



Memoirs of GEORGE WYLLYS,
Esq.

Hartford, May 2.

GEORGE WYLLYS, Esq. late secretary of the state, departed this life on the morning of the Sabbath, April 24th, and the next day was interred. A sermon was preached on the solemn occasion, by Mr. Strong, from 2 Cor. xv. 55—57.

This gentleman was descended from an ancient & honourable family in England, whose estate lay near Fenny Compton, in Warwickshire. About the year 1636, the Hon. George Wyllys, ancestor of the present family, moved into New England, and formed a settlement at Hartford at the place where his descendants have since resided. He brought with him a son, named Samuel, who, as well as his father, was much employed in important offices in the colony of Connecticut—From Samuel de-

scended Hezekiah, who was long secretary of the colony. The late George Wyllys, was son of Hezekiah, and succeeded him as secretary in the year 1730, and filled the office until his death, the long period of sixty six years. He was born October 6, 1710, and died in his 84th year. Through this long term of years he never missed attending a single session of the legislature, and was a stranger unto disease until the last and fatal sickness of a few days. So long and uninterrupted a continuance in honourable public office, is an unexampled instance, and fully proves a firm constitution, a temperate life, and a wise and discerning mind; for it must be such a mind, to attain the confidence of the people in a popular government, through so many political storms. He had that singular wisdom which taught him, when to speak and when to be silent, and obtain an influence by moderation and integrity, to which faction aspires without success. The experiment of human life in its various actions and energies in society, is the best evidence of a great man, and this evidence is impressed on the memory of those who knew him. He was a firm believer of the Christian Revelation, in all its doctrines of grace and holiness—a friend of all religious institutions—of exemplary Christian practice—and much supported in his death by the religion which he believed and loved. A grateful public will doubtless feel the loss which they have experienced in his death.

AGRI.

AGRICULTURAL PROCEEDINGS.

*At a Quarterly Meeting of the Directors of the AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY,
at Quebec, Friday, 18th September, 1795,*

THE treasurer laid before the board a list of the subscribers who have paid their guinea subscriptions, together with a list of absent members, and such as are undecided, and another of those persons who wish to withdraw from the society.

Resolved, That there be published in the Quebec Gazette a general account of all the monies received and expended by the respective treasurers to the society, since its commencement or institution.

Resolved, That a premium of thirty dollars be paid by the treasurer to the person, being a *habitant*, who shall raise the largest quantity of merchantable wheat, from one superficial arpent of land, and not less; a premium of twenty five dollars for the next greatest quantity, and a premium of fifteen dollars for the third largest quantity of such wheat, on the like extent of land, during the next year, to be paid upon the certificates of the cure and church wardens (*Marguilliers en charge*) of the parishes where such *habitants* may reside.

Resolved also, That a premium of twelve dollars be paid by the treasurer to the person, being a *habitant*, who shall raise the greatest quantity of potatoes, eight dollars for the next greatest quantity, and four dollars for the third largest quantity of those roots, from one half of a superficial arpent of land, and not less, during the next year, upon the like certificates.

Resolved, That a premium of forty dollars be paid by the treasurer to the person who shall raise the

largest quantity of merchantable fall or winter wheat, and twenty dollars for the next greatest quantity of such wheat, from one superficial arpent of land, and not less, for the year 1797; to be paid on the like certificates above mentioned. If such person should prefer a gold medal, or silver cup, to the value of the premium, it shall be at his option, and the treasurer will provide accordingly.

It is observed that the fall wheat above mentioned, should be sown on well prepared upland, before the 25th of August next.

Resolved, That a premium of twelve dollars be paid by the treasurer to the person who shall raise the greatest quantity of merchantable flax seed, eight dollars for the next largest quantity, and four dollars for the third greatest quantity of such flax seed, from one half of a superficial arpent of land, and not less, during the next year, to be paid on the like certificates.

All the above premiums to be paid only to persons inhabiting the district of Quebec, which is considered by the board to be bounded by the River St. Maurice on the north, and by River Becancour on the south side of the River St. Lawrence.

Resolved, That the following process for making potatoe bread, be recommended to the public.

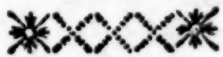
At this time when it becomes necessary to be sparing in the consumption of wheat, the Agriculture Society recommend to the inhabitants of this province the following

following method for making bread of potatoes.

Take two thirds of wheaten flour and one third of the most mealy potatoes, peel off the skins before or after boiling, and mix and knead the whole well together, thirty pounds of this mixture, baked in the mode made use of for wheaten flour, will produce forty pounds, at least, of excellent bread.

Ordered, That the minutes of this day's meeting be published in the *Quebec Gazette*, and transmitted to the secretary of the Montreal Branch of the Agriculture Society, without delay.

A true copy from the minutes,
George Allsop, Secretary of the Agriculture Society at Quebec.



Address to the Agricultural Society of the State of New York—By ROBERT R. LIVINGSTON, Esq. president.

[Continued from page 178.]

LET us now descend to particulars, and candidly weigh its advantages and disadvantages. The first advantage England possesses consists in her early spring; this enables the farmer to commence his work sooner than he can in this country: to this cause it is owing that such crops as require early sowing on a well prepared fallow, succeeded better in Britain than here. Barley, for instance, requires at least four good spring ploughings, and yet should be put in by the first of May: this cannot be done here except upon very light lands, our clays being hardly fit to plough before May; but light land will not produce good barley without manure. In

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England it may be raised to advantage on strong loams, and even on clay. It is for this reason that barley is nearly as cheap in England as here, though every other grain is sixty per cent. dearer than in America. The same reasoning applies to beans which are unproductive in England, unless sown in February and March, which is hardly possible here on strong clays, the soil these require. Turnips cannot be raised in our climate to advantage, as a food for cattle; the season in which they are sown being usually very dry, and the plants liable to be destroyed by the fly. Great Britain has also some advantage over us in the shortness of the winter, but much less than is generally imagined. Their autumn is cold and wet, and though there is some apparent verdure, yet the vegetation is so slow, as to render it usual for good farmers to house their cattle by the first of November, rather than suffer them to poach their fields in gleanings a scanty subsistence from them; nor do they turn them to pasture till late in April.

These are, I believe, all the advantages that the British farmers fairly claim over us. Let us now examine those we exclusively possess: The noblest of these is the *maize* or Indian corn; neither the beans or turnips of Britain can be compared to this plant: First, it need not be planted till the last of May, so that the farmer is never hurried by it with his spring work: Second, it is cultivated with a plough or horse shoe; and as the plants are large, and placed at five feet distance, there is ample room for this: and though it is also usual to hand hoe, yet as this is done after the ground is

loosened

loosened by the plough, and when the plant is a foot high, and then only just about the stem, it is easier to hoe ten acres of this than one of the turnips or beans: Third, it defies the drought, and never fails to make ample returns to the husbandman that cultivates it with diligence, forty bushels an acre being a common yield when well tended, and from sixty to seventy in a good soil, and in the best state of cultivation. The grain furnishes a palatable and nutritious food for man, and is greatly superior to any foreign species for farm stock—and while beam-haulm is of little value, the tops and blades of maize are not inferior, if gathered in season, to the best hay; and as this crop is easily and necessarily kept clean, it is the best of all fallow crops. The writers on agriculture in England are constantly recommending horse hoed crops instead of fallow; but neither precept nor example have been able to overcome the reluctance the great bulk of farmers feel to submit to this expence, for crops so little profitable, and requiring so much labour if hoed, as either beans or turnips; while maize has, by its superior excellence, and the facility with which it is effected, rendered the practice universal here; and I believe I speak within bounds when I say, that the whole island of Britain has fewer acres cultivated with the horse hoe, than we have in this state alone.—The want of turnips may be amply compensated by carrots, which may be raised at less expence here than in Britain, because we have much fewer weeds, which are the greatest enemies to that root; by cabbage and potatoes, which grow well here; and by pumpkins, which are raised in

very considerable quantities in our Indian corn fields, without any other expence than that of dropping a few seeds in the hills, and carting the crop: nor can I help recommending them as a rich and nutritious food that will save two months hay, if used in the beginning of the winter, and afford milk and butter equal in quantity and quality to the product of the richest pasture. These leguments would not be so much neglected here as they generally are, were it not that hay is made in this country at half the expence that it requires in the moist climate of Britain. Vegetation there is extremely slow; their spring is nearly one month earlier than ours; yet though their wheat begins to grow in March, it is not reaped till late in August—ours is cut six weeks earlier, yet at the same time it does not begin to vegetate till late in April: so that it takes five and one half months in Britain to perfect a crop which is performed here in little better than three. The same causes influence the growth of grass. In soils therefore of equal quality, much less will grow in a given time in Britain than in America, as I infer from the general average of their clover and natural grass in not exceeding ours, though they are longer in a growing state. It is true, that the moisture of the climate, and mild winters, give a great verdure to their fields at some seasons; but this is only an apparent advantage, which deceives superficial observers, while it is attended with real inconveniencies: First, the grass itself is by that circumstance rendered less nutritious, as is well known by every farmer: Second, while the

the hay is lighter, it is got in at more expence than ours, which is made at the driest season of the year. In our crops of grain we enjoy similar advantages; their harvests are frequently wet, while nine years in ten ours is got in without the least obstruction from rain. The produce, would also, I am well satisfied, be greater here than in England on highly cultivated soils, since it is well known that the strength of the straw depends upon the dryness of the season. In a moist climate, therefore, without sufficient sun to harden the straw, heavy crops must be very often injured by lodging, especially if we take into consideration, that high winds are much more usual in Great Britain than here. Blight and mildew are effects of a moist climate; these are seldom and partially known in this state, prevailing only in particular districts in extraordinary seasons. In Britain it often happens, that wet weather, when the wheat is in blossom, affects all the wheat in the kingdom, many parts of which, on this account, do not pretend to raise it.

If vegetation is flower in Britain than here, and if the grass is also less nutritious, it must follow, that with the same attention to stock our pastures with the best grass, and to keep the cattle out of them at improper seasons, a larger stock may be maintained on the same quantity of ground in this state, than in England; and thus the difference in the length of our winter be amply compensated. This observation leads me to a circumstance in British husbandry, which might be advantageously practised by us. Many of their farmers sow rye for the use of their sheep and lambs in the

spring; in order to this, they must be at the expence of a fallow, and as their rye grows two fifths slower than ours, it must follow that they can only keep three sheep, where we may have five. If therefore this practice is advantageous in England, it would be much more so in America, to sow our corn fields with rye, to feed off with sheep in the spring, not only because of the additional numbers that we can keep, but because we are more pinched for sheep food in the spring; besides that the rye that costs the British farmer a complete fallow, costs us nothing but the seed, if sown among the corn when it is topped; and as five sheep will leave more manure than three, the rye field so fed down will be left in better order here by this practice, than it would in Britain. In the healthfulness of our stock, we have also great advantages over Britain. Among our black cattle I have been told that some disorders prevail, though they are so extremely rare, that in twenty years since I commenced farming, I do not recollect to have lost one creature, unless it were by some accidental hurt: nor have I known any others to die among my neighbours, except from the same cause, or bad keeping in the spring: and while the rot sweeps away whole flocks of sheep in Britain, it is a disorder entirely unknown in this country.

All these natural advantages being in favour of the American farmer, I shall be asked how it happens that the lands in Britain are more productive: Admitting the fact, which however is not quite out of doubt, when the general average of the cultivated parts of both countries are compared, the answer would be found in the low price

price of labour, and in the high price of land. More labour is therefore expended upon less land there, and the product is always in proportion to the labour, the soil and the climate. But does it yield more profit to the cultivator? No man need be told that a garden where one man is constantly employed upon half an acre of ground, will produce more pulse than the same quantity of ground cultivated with a plough, in which way one man can tend ten acres; but does it follow the one half acre is more profitable than the ten acres, even though the additional rent should be superadded? That husbandry is more profitable here than in Britain is evident from this singular circumstance, that the labour is dearer, and lands proportionably worse cultivated; yet the American farmer can afford to sell his product sixty per cent. cheaper than the British husbandman. The reason is obvious: In England a greater capital is necessary, even though labour is cheaper than in America, to render their lands equally productive, and the interest of their capital must be added to the price of the produce. In Britain, the average of labour, when the labourer is lodged and fed, is below forty dollars a year; here it is above sixty; and yet the American farmers can afford to sell their product sixty per cent. cheaper than the British cultivator. Does it not follow then, that the same labour produces more by sixty per cent. and the whole difference of the price of labour? And where the cultivator, as is the case with most of our farmers, is his own labourer, is not the difference in the price of labour to be considered as part of his profit, since he earns

sixty dollars, where a British cultivator earns forty; and yet makes so much more from his land over and above this difference in the value of his own labour, as to undersell the British farmer even in his own market?

All these observations are intended to apply to lands in their common state, not to lands on which a great capital has been expended in one country, and nothing in the other. Thus I do not mean to say that a bog meadow in America, without a ditch, shall produce as much as a meadow reclaimed at a great expence in Britain; or that a piece of clay ground in England completely under drained, will not produce more than a similar piece here without a single water furrow: I know too that these improvements are much more usual in England than in America, where lands are cheap, and the farmers' capitals too small for expensive improvements: all I mean to show is, that this country has natural advantages in its soil and climate over Britain, and to encourage our farmers to hope, that whenever their circumstances shall enable them to circulate their artificial improvements, that agriculture will be carried to a much higher pitch here than in Britain. One of the cheapest and most obvious improvements, and to which England is more indebted than to any other, is the sowing of grass seeds, and particularly clover, and putting in their wheat upon a clover clay instead of an expensive fallow. To this permit me to add another from my own experience, which is, the practicability of raising lucerne as easy here as in any part of the world; a plant which as much exceeds red clo-

ver,

ver, as the red does the common white, but which the want of sun, and the moist climate of England, generating an infinity of weeds, prevents their cultivating to any advantage—to these physical, every man's reflection will add those moral advantages that arise from the enjoyment of freedom under the happiest of constitutions, the equality of our fortunes, which facilitates our mutual interests, and the respect in which agriculture is held by those who govern and direct our affairs:—where the hero, the patriot, the statesman, *Washington*, does not disdain to guide, who can refuse to venerate the plough?



The Green Ass.

A CERTAIN widow, though pretty much advanced in life, had a mind to marry again. As her fortune was very large she thought herself entitled to a young husband; and accordingly fixed her eyes upon a handsome youth, who had nothing but his personal recommendations to depend upon. She plainly perceived that there would be no difficulty on his part, but she dreaded the censure and ridicule of her neighbours. In this perplexity, she communicated her wishes and alarms to a maiden sister, who lived in the house, and possessed an uncommon share of shrewdness and address for all such occasions. "Sister," says the amorous widow, "what think you of Leander! he is surely the picture of my late husband. Alas! I should never have yielded my heart but to this irresistible resemblance. What shall I do! for I am in a dreadful consternation

about what my neighbours may say of me, being well acquainted with their malice and cruelty;—the purest love is not sheltered from their ill natured ridicule. Were it not for that, this dear young man should—but—" "How absurd is all this, my dear sister!" replied the other. "Follow your inclinations, and don't tell me of such foolish fears. You will be sung, hooted, hallowed after, and chalked up for eight days;—on the ninth, they will think no more of you than one thinks of a friend one has quitted for three months. That ass which you see yonder, shall, if you please, impose silence on the whole parish about you the morning after your nuptials." "That ass!" "Yes, that ass. Marry, I say, and leave the rest to me and my ass." The widow was easily persuaded, and the marriage was concluded, on the credit of the ass. Dreadful outcry in the parish—rough music before their doors—not a soft thing could be heard from the mouth of either party for the noise of kettles and frying pans. In the mean time, the sister had painted the ass as green as a parrot; and out rushed the phenomenon, with a triumphant bray, into the midst of the crowd. In an instant every kettle and pan was mute, and every soul in the parish crowded round so strange a prodigy. "A green ass! Good heavens, who could have believed it! Well, wonders will never cease. How surprising is nature in all her operations!" "I dreamed," cries an old woman, "of this very ass a week ago. I am sure it betokeneth something bad to our town. A number of white mice appeared in the same manner just before the plague that happened in my youth." Such observations

observations and exclamations as these took place of the clamour about the new-married couple. The green as, lasted its eight days, and then there was no more curiosity about the green as than there had been about the new-married couple the moment the as appeared.



The handsome Man and ugly Wife.

A YOUNG man remarkable for his beauty and elegance of person, was married to a woman exceedingly deformed and ugly: one evening as they were sitting together, "My dear," said he, "I congratulate you, I am the messenger of good news; you and I are certainly to be in paradise." "May God," said the woman, "always make you the messenger of good news, but what is the occasion of your present warm address to me?" "Why," returned the husband, "I shall certainly go to paradise. It was my lot to have such a woman as you for my wife, I have borne it patiently: you will also go to paradise, because I was given you, and you are thankful; now God himself has said by Mahomet, that the patient and thankful are to be blessed in paradise."



Customs and manners of the Chinese, with an account of the city of Peking.—From the late British embassy to China.

Wednesday August 21, 1793.

THIS morning at two o'clock the general was beat through all the courts of the house, as a fig-

nal for the suite to prepare for their departure. After an hasty breakfast, the whole of the embassy was ready to proceed on their journey. The soldiers were first marched off to covered waggons provided for them; the servants then followed, and were received into similar machines; the gentlemen of the suite next proceeded in light carts drawn by a single horse. Lord Macartney, Sir George Staunton, and Mr. Plumb, the interpreter, were conveyed in palanquins, which were each of them borne by four men.

The vehicles which carried the soldiers and servants were common hired carts, drawn by four horses, unequally coupled together, and covered with straw matting. The harness, if it may deserve that name, was made of rope and cordage. The single horse carts were covered with blue nankeen, and had doors of lattice work lined with the same stuff: the drivers walked by the side of them.

At four o'clock this procession was in motion, which consisted of sixty carts for the soldiers and servants, and twenty for the conveyance of the gentlemen belonging to the suite, exclusive of carts for the private baggage, and the coolies or porters employed to carry the presents and heavy baggage, which were conveyed on their shoulders; four hundred of whom were employed on this extraordinary occasion.

About five o'clock we had quitted the city of Tong-tchew, and entered immediately into a fine level country of the most luxuriant fertility, which, as far as the eye could reach, appeared to be one immense garden.

The road along which we travelled

elled is not only broad but elegant, and is a proof of the labour employed by the Chinese government to facilitate the communications between the capital and the principal parts of the kingdom. The middle of this road consists of a pavement of broad flag stones about twenty feet wide, and on each side of it there is sufficient space to admit of six carriages to run abreast. The lateral parts are laid with gravel stones, and kept in continual repair, by troops of labourers, who are stationed on different parts of the road for that purpose.

At seven o'clock the cavalcade stopped at a large town, whose name is Kiyeng Foo. To call it populous, would be to employ a superfluous expression, that is equally appropriate to the whole kingdom, as every village, town, and city, nay, every river, and all the banks of it, teems with people. In the country through which we have passed, the population is immense and universal: every mile brought us to a village, whose inhabitants would have crowded our largest towns; and the number of villas scattered over the country, on each side of the road, while they added to its beauty, were proofs of its wealth. Those which we approached near enough to examine as we passed, were built of wood, and the fronts of many of them were painted black and enriched with gilded ornaments.

The day of our journey from Tong-tchew to Pekin was, I doubt not, a matter of general notification, from the prodigious concourse of people who absolutely covered the road; and, notwithstanding the utmost exertions of the mandarins to keep it clear, the pressure of the crowd was sometimes

so great, that we were obliged to halt, for at least a quarter of an hour, to prevent the accidents which might otherwise have happened from the carts amidst this continual and innumerable throng. I cannot but add to the obstacles which we received from the curiosity of the Chinese people, some small degree of mortification at the kind of impression our appearance seemed to make on them: for they no sooner obtained a sight of any of us, than they universally burst out into loud shouts of laughter: and I must acknowledge, that we did not, at this time, wear the appearance of people, who were arrived in this country, in order to obtain, by every means of address and prepossession, those commercial privileges, and political distinctions, which no other nation has had the art or power to accomplish.

At Kiyeng Foo, which is about nine miles from Tong-tchew, the whole embassy of all ranks alighted from their respective carriages: here the inferior department found tables spread for their refreshment in an open yard, but covered at the same time, with great plenty of cold meats, tea, fruits, &c. while the upper departments were served with their regale in some adjoining rooms of a very miserable appearance.

Before the procession recommenced its progress, the conducting mandarin, with his usual attention, ordered some joau, an harsh sour white wine, to be offered to the attendants of the embassy, to fortify their stomachs, as a considerable time might probably elapse before they would obtain any further refreshment: we werethen summoned to prepare for our departure, when a scene of confusion

sion and disturbance took place among ourselves, which, whatever its real effects might have been, was not calculated at least to give any very favourable impression of the manners and disposition of the English nation. In short, from the crowd of people assembled to see us, the neglect of a previous arrangement and distribution of the carts, together with the inconsiderate eagerness to set off among ourselves, it was a matter of no inconsiderable difficulty for the mandarins to assign the people to their respective vehicles.

At eight o'clock we took our leave of the town of Kiyeng-Foo, which is a very considerable and extensive place: the streets are broad and unpaved, and the houses are built altogether of wood, at least in the part which we traversed there were none constructed of any other materials. The shops made a very pleasing appearance, and seemed to be well furnished with their respective commodities.

Of the country which occupies the few miles from this place to Peking, I have little to say, as the crowds of people that surrounded us either intercepted our view, or distracted our attention.

At noon we approached the suburbs of the capital of China, and I cannot but feel some degree of regret, that no alteration was made in the ordinary travelling and shabby appearance of the embassy on such an important occasion. Whatever reasons there might be to prevent that display which it possessed such ample provisions to make, I cannot pretend to determine, but our cavalcade had nothing like the appearance of an embassy, from the first nation

in Europe, passing through the most populous city in the world.

On entering the suburbs, we passed beneath several very beautiful triumphal arches, elegantly painted, and enriched with various fanciful ornaments: the upper part of them was square, with a kind of pent-house, painted of a green colour, and heightened with varnish: from the inside of this roof was suspended the model of an accommodation junk, admirably executed, and adorned with ribbons and silken streamers.

These suburbs are very extensive; the houses are of wood, the greater part of them two stories in height, and their fronts painted in various colours. The shops are not only commodious for their respective purposes, but have a certain grandeur in their appearance, that is enlivened by the very pretty manner in which the articles of the respective magazines are displayed to the view of the public, either to distinguish the trade, or to tempt the purchaser.

We proceeded gradually through spacious streets, which are paved on either side for the convenience of foot passengers. The whole way was lined with soldiers, and, indeed, without such a regulation, it would have been impossible for the carriages to have proceeded from the crowd that attended us.

At two o'clock we arrived at the gates of the grand imperial city of Peking, with very little semblance of diplomatic figure or importance: in short, for I cannot help repeating the sentiment, the appearance of the ambassador's attendants, both with respect to the shabbiness of their dress and the vehicles which conveyed them, bore a

greater

greater resemblance to the removal of paupers to their parishes in England, than the expected dignity of the representative of a great and powerful monarch.

Pekin, or, as the natives pronounce it, Pitchin, the metropolis of the Chinese empire, is situated in 116 degrees of east longitude, and between forty and forty one degrees of north latitude. It is defended by a wall that incloses a square space of about twelve leagues in circumference: there is a grand gate in the centre of each angle, and as many lesser ones at each corner of the wall: they are strongly arched, and fortified by a square building or tower of seven stories, that springs from the top of the gateway, the sides of which are strengthened by a parapet wall, with port holes for ordnance. The windows of this building are of wood, and painted to imitate the muzzle of a great gun, which is so exactly represented, that the deception is not discoverable but on a very near approach: there are nine of these windows to each story on the front towards the suburbs. These gates are double, the first arch of which is very strongly built of a kind of free stone, and not of marble, as has been related by some writers: the depth of it is about thirty feet, and in the middle of the entrance is a very strong door of six inches thick, and fortified with iron bolts: this archway leads to a large square, which contains the barracks for soldiers, consisting of mean wooden houses of two stories: on turning to the left, the second gateway is seen whose arch is of the same dimensions and appearance as that already described, but without the tower.

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At each of the principal gates there is a strong guard of soldiers, with several pieces of ordnance placed on each side of the inner entrance. These gates are opened at the dawn of day, and shut at ten o'clock at night, after which hour all communication with the city from the suburbs is impracticable; nor will they be opened on any pretence or occasion whatever, without a special order from the principal mandarin of the city.

The four lesser gates are defended by a small fort built on the wall, which is always guarded by a body of troops.

The wall is about thirty feet high, and ten feet in breadth on the top: the foundation is of stone, and appears about two feet from the surface of the earth: the upper part is of brick, and gradually diminishes from the bottom to the top. Whether it is a solid structure, or only filled up with mortar and rubbish, is a circumstance concerning which I could not procure any authentic information.

This wall is defended by out-works and batteries, at short distances from each other; each of them being strengthened by a small fort, though none of the fortifications are garrisoned but those which are attached to the gates; and though there is a breast work of three feet high, with port-holes for cannon, which crowns the whole length of the wall, there is not a single gun mounted upon it. On the side towards the city, it is in some places quite perpendicular, and in others forms a gentle declivity from the top to the ground. It is customary for bodies of soldiers to patrol the wall every night during the time that the emperor resides in the city,

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which

which is from October to April, when his imperial majesty usually goes to a favourite palace in Tartary. From its perfect state of repair and general appearance, I should rather suppose it to be of modern erection, and that many years cannot have passed away since it underwent a complete repair, or was entirely rebuilt.

The distance from the south gate, where we entered, to the east gate, through which we passed out of the city, comprehends, on the most moderate computation, a course of ten miles. The principal streets are equally spacious and convenient, being one hundred and forty feet in breadth, and of great length, but are only paved on each side for foot passengers. The police of the city, however, spares no pains to keep the middle part clean and free from all kind of nuisance, there being large bodies of scavengers continually employed for that purpose, who are assisted, as well as controlled in their duty by soldiers stationed in every district, to enforce a due observance of the laws that have been enacted and the regulations which have been framed for preserving civil order among the people and the municipal æconomics of this immense city. I observed, as we passed along, a great number of men who were sprinkling the streets with water, in order to lay the dust, which in dry weather would not only be troublesome to passengers, but very obnoxious also to the shops, whose commodities must be more or less injured, were it not for this beneficial and necessary precaution.

Though the houses at Peking are low and mean, when considered with respect to size and domestic accommodation, their exterior ap-

pearance is very handsome and elegant, as the Chinese take a great pride in adorning the fronts of their shops and dwellings; the upper part of the former is ornamented with a profusion of golden characters, and the roofs of the latter are frequent galleries, rich in painting and other decoration, where numerous parties of women are seen to amuse themselves according to the fashion of the country. The pillars which are erected before the doors of the shops are gilded and painted, having a flag fixed at the top, whose characters specify the name and business of the owner: tables are also spread with commodities, and lines attached to these pillars are hung with them.

I observed a great number of butchers shops, whose mode of cutting up their meat resembles our own: nor can the markets of London boast a better supply of flesh than is to be found in Peking. My curiosity induced me to inquire the prices of their meat, and on my entering the shop, I saw on a stall before it an earthen stove, with a gridiron placed upon it; and on my employing a variety of signs to obtain the information I wanted, the butcher instantly began to cut off small thin slices of meat, about the size of a crown piece, and broiled as fast as I could eat them. I took about a dozen of these slices, which might altogether weigh seven or eight ounces; and when I paid him, which I did by giving him a string of caxee, or small coin, he pulled off, as I suppose, the amount of his demand, which was one conderon, or ten caxee, the only current money in the empire. I saw numbers of other people in other butchers shops, as I passed along,

regaling

regaling themselves with beef and mutton in the same manner.

The houses for porcelain utensils and ornaments are peculiarly attractive, having a row of broad shelves, ranged above each other, on the front of their shops, on which they dispose the most beautiful specimens of their trade in a manner full of fancy and effect.

Besides the variety of trades which are stationary in this great city, there are many thousands of its inhabitants who cry their goods about, as we see in our own metropolis. They generally have a bamboo placed across their shoulders, and a basket at each end of it, in which they carry fish, vegetables, eggs, and other similar articles. There are also great numbers of hawkers and pedlars, who go about with bags strapped on their shoulders like a knapsack, which contain various kinds of stuff goods, the folds of which are exposed to view. In selling these stuffs, they use the cubic measure of sixteen inches. Barbers also are seen running about the streets in great plenty, with every instrument known in this country for shaving the head and cleansing the ears: they carry with them for this purpose a portable chair, a portable stove, and a small vessel of water; and whoever wishes to undergo either of these operations, sits down in the street, while the operator performs his office, for which he receives a mace. To distinguish their profession, they carry a pair of large steel tweezers, which they open with their fingers, and let them close again with some degree of violence, which produces a shrill sound that is heard at a considerable distance; and such is their mode of seeking employment. That this trade in

China is a very profitable one may be pronounced, because every man must be shaved on a part of the head where it is impossible to shave himself.

In several of the streets I saw persons engaged in selling off goods by auction: the auctioneer stood on a platform surrounded with the various articles he had to sell; he delivered himself in a loud and bawling manner; but the smiling countenances of the audience, which was the only language I could interpret, seemed to express the entertainment they received from his harangue.

At each end of the principal streets, for there are no squares in Pekin, there is a large gateway fancifully painted, with an handsome roof coloured and varnished; beneath which the name of the street is written in golden characters; these arches terminate the nominal street, or otherwise there would be streets in some parts of the city of at least five miles in length, which are formed into several divisions by these gateways. They are very handsome, as well as central objects, and are railed on each side from the foot pavement.

The narrow streets are inclosed at each end with small lattice gates, which are always shut during the night; but all the considerable streets are guarded both night and day by soldiers, who wear swords by their sides, and carry long whips in their hands, to clear the streets of any inconvenient throng of people, and to chastise such as are refractory in ordinary decorum or good behaviour.

Notwithstanding the vast extent of this place, there is little or no variety in their houses, as I have before observed, but in the colours with

with which they are painted ; they are in reality nothing better than temporary booths, erected entirely for exterior shew, and without any view to strength or durability. It is very rare, indeed, to see a house of more than one story, except such as belong to mandarins, and even those are covered, as it were, by the walls which rise above every house or building in Pekin, except a lofty pagoda, and the imperial palace.

There are no carriages standing in the streets for the convenience of the inhabitants, like our hackney coaches in London : the higher classes of people keep palanquins, and others of less distinction have covered carts drawn by an horse or mule.

The opinion, that the Chinese women are excluded from the view of strangers, has very little, if any, foundation, as among the immense crowd assembled to see the cavalcade of the English embassy, one fourth of the whole at least were women ; a far greater proportion of that sex than is to be seen in any concourse of people whom curiosity assembles in our own country : and if the idea is founded in truth, that curiosity is a peculiar characteristic of the female disposition in Europe, I shall presume to say that, from the eagerness which we observed in the looks of the Chinese women as we passed by them, the quality which has just been mentioned is equally prevalent among the fair ones of Asia.

The women we saw on our passage through Pekin possessed, in general, great delicacy of feature, and fair skins by nature, with which, however, they are not content, and therefore whiten them with cosmetics : they likewise em-

ploy vermilion, but in a manner wholly different from the application of rouge among our European ladies, for they mark the middle of their lips with it by a stripe of its deepest colour, which, without pretending to reason upon it, certainly heightened the effect of their features. Their eyes are very small, but powerfully brilliant, and their arms extremely long and slender. The only difference between the women of Pekin, and those we had already seen, as it appeared to us, was that the former wear a sharp peak of black velvet or silk, which is ornamented with stones, and descends from the forehead almost between their eyes ; and that their feet, free from the bandages were suffered to attain their natural growth.

When we had passed through the eastern gate of the city, some confusion having arisen among the baggage carts, the whole procession was obliged to halt. I, therefore, took the opportunity of easing my limbs, which were very much cramped by the inconvenience of the machine, and perceiving a number of women in the crowd that surrounded us, I ventured to approach them ; and, addressing them with the Chinese word *Chou-au*, (or beautiful) they appeared to be extremely diverted, and gathering round me, but with an air of great modesty and politeness, they examined the make and form of my clothes, as well as the texture of the materials of which they were composed. When the carts began to move off, I took leave of these obliging females by a gentle shake of the hand, which they tendered to me with the most graceful affability ; nor did the men, who were present, appear to be at all dissatisfied with my conduct,

but, on the contrary, expressed, as far as I could judge, very great satisfaction at this public attention I paid to their ladies. It appears, therefore, that in the city, the women are not divested of a reasonable portion of their liberty, and, consequently, that the jealousy attributed so universally to the Chinese men, is not a predominant quality, at least, in the capital of the empire.

Among other objects we saw in our way, and which did not fail to attract our notice, we met a funeral procession, which proved to be a very striking and solemn spectacle: the coffin is covered by a canopy decorated with curtains of satin, enriched with gold and flowers, and hung with escutcheons: it is placed on a large bier or platform, and carried by at least fifty or sixty men, who support it on their shoulders with long bamboos crossing each other, and march eight abreast with slow and solemn step. A band of music immediately follows, playing a kind of dirge, which was not without a mixture of pleasing tunes; the relations and friends of the deceased person then followed, arrayed in black and white dresses.

Having passed through the eastern suburbs of the city, we entered into a rich and beautiful country, when a short stage of about four miles brought us to one of the emperor's palaces named Yeumen-man-yeumen, where we arrived about five o'clock in the afternoon, oppressed with fatigue from the extreme heat of the day, and the various impediments which obstructed our passage, arising from the immense crowds of people that may be said to have filled up the whole way from Tong tchew to

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this place, a journey of thirty miles.

In a short time after our arrival, we received a very scanty and indifferent refreshment, when the whole suite retired to sleep off the fatigue of the day.



LITERARY.

Last Wednesday, being the first Wednesday in May, was celebrated the Annual Commencement of Columbia College.

Order of Procession.

THE Janitor,
Students of Medicine,
Students of Law,
Students of Arts,
Candidates,
Former Graduates,
Faculty of Medicine,
Music.
President and Faculty of the Arts,
Trustees of the College,
The Corporation of the City,
Judges of the Supreme Court,
Strangers of Distinction,
Regents of the University,
Chancellor,
Governor of the State.

The business of the day was introduced with prayer by the President, after which orations were delivered by the Candidates for the degree of Bachelor of Arts, on the following subjects, and in the following order.

In the morning.

1. *De facultatibus animi*, by William Rattoone, of Perth-Amboy.
2. On the rise and progress of the Arts and Sciences, by John J. Watts, of New-York.
3. On the study of Nature, by K k Gouverneur

Gouverneur Ogden, of New-Jersey.

4. On the Theatre, by Andrew Garr, of New York.

5. A peaceable disposition in a nation, favourable to its prosperity, by Adrian C. Van Slyck, of Schenectady.

6. On the rights of Women, by Philip Fisher, of New-York.

7. On Honour, by Josiah Shippey, of New-York.

8. On Pride and Self-interest, by William Turk, of New-York.

9. On Liberty, by Charles Taylor, of New-York.

In the afternoon.

1. On Enthusiasm, by Henry Cruger, of New York.

2. The refined principles of Religion, favourable to Liberty, by Lawrence Van Buskirk, of New-York.

3. On Ambition, by Edward Livingston of New-York.

The degree of Bachelor of Arts, was conferred on David S. Jones, William Rattoone, Henry Cruger, Edward Livingston, Gouverneur Ogden, John J. Watts, Adrian C. Van Slyck, Samuel Nicholson, Samuel Barclay, Lawrence V. Buskirk, William Turk, Andrew Garr, Philip Fisher, Josiah Shippey, Charles Taylor.

The degree of Master of Arts, on Jonathan Pearce, Alexander Hofack, Gilbert Smith, Henry Masterton, of New York, and Valentine Peters, of Nova Scotia.

The degree of Doctor of Physic, on Alexander Anderson, of New-York, and Winthrop Saltonstall, of Connecticut.

The Valedictory oration was then delivered by David S. Jones, of New York.

An address to the Graduates by the President, and prayers finished the ceremony of the day.



POLITICAL PAPERS.

On the DISSOLUTION of the FEDERAL UNION.

[From the Philadelphia Gazette.]

MR. BROWN,

IN your paper of yesterday, I read, with the most poignant uneasiness, the following paragraph copied from the New-York Minerva.

"One event is the most certain consequence of a violation of the treaty by the House of Representatives—a *division of the union*—The northern states* fought the battles of the southern during the late war—

* By the northern states I here understand New England, in contradistinction to the middle and southern.

They fed, clothed, and supported the army. They secured Independence—They have offered now to pay the debts of the southern delinquents—They consented to give the southern states a fourth more representatives than they are justly entitled to, by admitting three fifths of the blacks to be represented—And yet those states are not satisfied. A violation of national faith, at this time, will be considered by the northern people as a throw of the gauntlet. The challenge will be accepted, and the northern

northern states will rid themselves of a weight that hangs like a millstone about the neck of our prosperity."

Although our newspapers have of late teemed with crude and undigested remarks, advanced with such a degree of confidence and dogmatism, as might lead the unsuspicious reader to give them a credit to which they were by no means entitled; yet there has hardly appeared a paragraph more highly exceptionable than the above.

It might be examined under various points of view. I shall confine myself to two.

1. The allegations it contains are not true.

2. Its tendency is to produce disorganization in its worst and most hideous possible form.

1. Its allegations are not true. The northern states *did not* fight the battles of the southern during the late war. They *did not* feed, clothe, and support the army. They *did not* secure American independence.

Far am I from a wish to pluck the well earned and glorious laurels from the brows of those New-England heroes, who, in common with their middle and southern brethren, their French allies, the

Irish and German emigrants, contributed their full share to "secure American independence." This vile task I disclaim. I cheerfully acknowledge their merits. My sole object is to prevent an anonymous writer from robbing others of their laurels, to deck brows already sufficiently adorned.

Gen. Washington was not a New Englander—nor the hero of Cowpens—nor Gen. Gates—nor the hero of Stony Point—nor Gen. Marion—nor a hundred more illustrious characters whom I might mention—yet surely these gentlemen had a share in "fighting the battles of the southern states, and securing the American independence."

Had New York no share in securing American independence? New Jersey? Pennsylvania? Delaware? Did not these states contribute their quotas towards feeding, clothing, and supporting the American armies? Did they furnish no soldiers, no commanders, to "fight the battles of the southern states," or to "secure American independence?"

Were the southern states inactive spectators of the prowess of their New England brethren? Had they no commanders in the field

† The battle of Eutaw, as decisive and perhaps as glorious as any in the annals of the revolution, was fought without any assistance from the northern states, except the general himself, as far as can be drawn from Gordon's account of it. "Greene drew up his troops in two lines. The front consisted of the militia from North and South Carolina, and was commanded by Marion, Pickens, and Col. de Malmédy. The second consisted of the continental troops from North Carolina, Virginia, and Maryland, and were led on by Gen. Sumner, Lieut. Col. Campbell, and Col. Otho Williams. Lee with his legion covered the right flank—and Henderson with the state troops, the left. Washington with his cavalry, and Capt. Kirkwood, with the Delaware troops, formed a corps de reserve." The shortness of the time will not allow me to examine minutely the accounts of other battles; and I do not choose to make

field—did they furnish no soldiers? Did they not contribute to “feed, clothe, and support the American army?”

The Irish and German emigrants in this country, might perhaps feel some chagrin at the declaration, that “the northern states secured independence.” Probably in the eye of candour and justice, it might not be deemed presumption or vanity, were they to prefer a claim for some small share of the honour of “securing independence.” The gallant hero Montgomery, the scientific Steuben, might without danger of rejection, step forward for a sprig of the laurel planted by the American revolution. Were there not entire regiments of Irishmen in the service? Did they not display as much bravery, and acquire as much glory as any of their coadjutors? How comes it then, that they are now thrown out of sight in distributing the honour of “securing American independence,” and that the whole is given to “the northern states?”

The French nation may ask, and probably it will be allowed with justice, have they had no share in the honour of “securing American independence?” Was the gallant, the humane, the generous, and, alas! the too unfortunate La Fayette, a New Englander? Was Rochambeau—were the troops that served under La Fayette, and so bravely co-operated in the capture of Lord Cornwallis, “an event that was as instrumental in

securing independence,” as any other of the war, were they, I say, New Englanders?

Had Congress no share in securing “American independence?” Were there no members of that body from “the southern states?” Who moved for the declaration of “independence?” Was he a member from New England? Were the southern members less decisive, less firm, less wise than the northern?

HARRINGTON.

April 19, 1796.

P. S. I shall consider the subject under its second grand aspect in my next.

Wednesday, 20th, April, 1796.

A CORRESPONDENT recommends to *Harrington*, to consult the returns of the army, as published November 1790, from statements in the war office, in which he will find, that in 1783, the continental army consisted of thirteen thousand four hundred and seventy-six men, of which number eleven thousand six hundred and fifty seven were from the northern states, Pennsylvania included, whose number was then only one thousand five hundred and ninety eight. The census, says *Harrington*, gives Virginia more white inhabitants than Massachusetts: It does. The greatest number of troops that Virginia ever had in the field, was in 1776; they amounted to six thousand one hundred and eighty one. Massachusetts the same year, had seven-

make unqualified assertions, of which I cannot bring forward proofs; yet I am strongly inclined to believe, from a cursory review of the history, that the southern armies in other engagements, were composed of the same materials as at Eutaw—although we are now told in the most peremptory manner, that “the northern states fought the battles of the southern.”

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teen thousand three hundred and seventy-two.

Is it true that the northern states *did not* fight the battles of the southern during the late war?

Thursday April 21st, 1796.

Mr. BROWN,

THE next observation on which I wish to remark, is this: "The northern states consented to give the southern a fourth more representatives than they are justly entitled to, by admitting three fifths of the blacks to be represented."

I shall not object to the *antifederalism* of this direct attack upon the *federal* constitution—but shall ask, and hope I shall receive a candid answer, have the southern states made no concessions to the middle and northern? Have they been outdone in the spirit of compromise? Maryland, Virginia and North Carolina contain 954,855 free white inhabitants, and 496,234 slaves, in the whole 1,451,089 souls, or about one third of the entire population of the United

States—and yet they have no more influence in the Senate, than Vermont, Rhode Island, and Delaware, which contain only 203,607 free white inhabitants, and 9,251 slaves. That is to say, a *third part* of the *people* of the United States, are, in the Senate, only equal in power to a *twentieth part*! To put the case more forcibly: Virginia, so often devoted to execration, which contains about a seventh part of the population of the union, stands on no better ground than Delaware, which has only a *seventieth part*:—thus, in the important business of making treaties, appointing to offices, &c. &c. *ten Virginians are only equal to one citizen of Delaware.* Is not this concession equal to the mighty sacrifice of allowing the southern states, fourteen representatives* for 645,022 slaves?—Should the present contest, by whatever means it may be, terminate in favour of that construction which renders the treaty making power paramount to the legislative, what an amazing magnitude does it not give to this "concession!"

* When I wrote on this subject a few days since, I committed an error, which I most cheerfully acknowledge—I added the whole of the negroes of the southern states together, and dividing three fifths of the number by 33,000, conceived that the southern states had only eleven, or perhaps ten representatives for negroes. On further examination, I find that the addition of the negroes to the fractional remainder of white people in the different southern states, has given Maryland two, Virginia six, North Carolina two, South Carolina two, Georgia one, and Kentucky one additional representative, in all fourteen. This voluntary avowal will exculpate me from the charge of wilful misrepresentation, which I abhor. But, reader, I am going to add an observation, which, I believe, will startle you not a little. New York, in whose capital this gross attack on the southern states, on account of "negro representatives" made its appearance, *has actually in Congress at this very hour a negro representative*; for her white population would have entitled her to only nine representatives; whereas, by the addition of 21,324 slaves, she has ten! "*Men of glass, throw no stones.*"

We

We will therefore dismiss, and forever, the extraordinary and vaunted "*concessions*" made by the northern states in favour of the southern, with this one question—Is there any just reason, why 645,022 human beings of the south, should be debarred from representatives to protect their interests, because they are *negroes*—when the men who perform the analogous labours in the north, are entitled to representatives because they are white?

The writer proceeds to inform us, that the southern states are "*a weight that hangs like a millstone about the neck of our prosperity.*" Never was the public understanding insulted by a more barefaced and unfounded assertion. Let us examine the matter.

The planters in the southern states, manufacture little—they consume much—they are generally rich—they live generously—they are principally supplied by the northern and middle states; as few of their merchants import goods directly from Europe. They are, therefore, *a grand source of the prosperity of that part of the union*, where a few interested and wicked men are endeavouring, by calumny and misrepresentation, to render them odious and execrated. As well might England say, that America, the most capital support of her grandeur and greatness, "*is a millstone about the neck of her prosperity,*" as the northern states make that unfounded and ungrateful reproach to the southern.

I now proceed to prove my second point, that

"The tendency of the paragraph I have quoted is to produce disorganization in its worst and most hideous possible form."

The writer plainly and unequivocally declares, that a rejection of the treaty, will produce a division of the union—that the northern states will accept the challenge, and rid themselves of *the southern millstone*.

This writer either held this out merely *in terrorem* to the House, to intimidate them into appropriations for the treaty—or he is *actually desirous to effect the object of a separation*, and throws out the idea, in order to *prepare people's minds for it*. I am charitably inclined to suppose the former to be the case; as, without positive proofs on the subject, I will not allow myself to believe, that any man can be so superlatively wicked, as to endeavour to bring about such a calamitous and tremendous event. But if this gentleman only meant to play this off as an engine of party, he ought to be mindful of the admonition in scripture against the "*man who casteth about fire brands, arrows, and death, and faith, am I not in sport?*"

In the present inflamed state of the public mind, *no honest, no good man will add to the irritation*. This is a position so unexceptionably true, that the man who adds fuel to the flame, by violent and exasperating appeals to the passions, may, without further enquiry, at once be set down as a dangerous and interested incendiary, who has some sinister purpose to answer. Were our newspaper writers (to whom I am bold to ascribe the principal part of the clouds that so alarmingly collect about our political horizon) to observe more moderation and temper, the inflammation might be allayed, and some compromise might take place, to restore us to that tranquil state, of which

which the war in Europe has unfortunately deprived us. We are all brethren—children of one family. Our interests are inseparably connected by heaven—Artful men may, indeed, endeavour to excite, as England once did, a jealousy and hatred between the different branches of this great family—but our motto ought to be, and I hope ever will be—“United we stand—divided we fall”—an easy prey either to some Julius Cæsar or Oliver Cromwell among ourselves, or some ravaging Kouli Khan or Alexander from the eastern hemisphere.

Viewing the subject in this light, I most sincerely deprecate a “disunion.” That single word conveys to my mind all the ills of Pandora’s Box. My eye turns, with the thought, involuntarily towards the map of Greece—I contemplate a renewal of the Peloponnesian, the Messinian, and the social wars—the invasions of the Persians, the Macedonians, and the Romans. All the ills which war, in its most terrible and haggard forms could produce, present themselves to my mind’s eye. And, were the alternative placed before me—a division of the union—or a submission to either of the two great rival nations of Europe, France or England, I should hesitate which to choose.

However, since an anonymous newspaper writer, assumes the right of menacing the *southern millstone* with being shaken off the neck of the northern states—a right to which he ought to produce some claim—at least a diploma from a convention of those northern states—let us calmly examine, *which division of the union is best in a situation to hold out this threat.*

This is an interesting question, the discussion of which may have a tendency to lower that imperious tone which forbids all possibility of accommodation.

We have already seen, that in a commercial view, the advantages of the union are almost entirely on the side, or at least greatly preponderate in favour of the middle and northern states, for whose benefit *the southern states seem almost wholly to labour.* This view would be enough to decide the question. But it has other and more interesting aspects.

I have not documents before me to speak with as much precision as I could wish, on the subject of the funds of the United States—nevertheless I feel satisfied, that at least three fourths, if not seven eights of those held by Americans, belong to the inhabitants of the middle and northern states, who thus draw from the treasury such an extra proportion of the national revenues—(revenues to which all the states, southern as well as middle and eastern contribute)—as must have a more invigorating effect on their agriculture, commerce, and manufactures. *In proportion as this state of things, of which the southern section of the union can hope no advantageous alteration, enlivens one part of the United States, it must inevitably tend to impoverish and depress the other.*

I will pay my reader the compliment, to suppose, that no additional arguments are necessary to enable him to answer this question—*On which side of the Potowmac does the millstone lie?*

HARRINGTON.

For

For the RURAL MAGAZINE.

A Description of two remarkable Ponds in Vermont.

THE first is a small pond close by the dwelling house of Mr. William Child, innholder in Thetford, containing about nine or ten acres, which is upward of seventy feet deep. It lies on a plain where the land descends a little from it on every side except the west, where it rises a little. There is no brook runs into it, nor any out, but when the snow melts in the spring; and in very wet weather, the superfluous water settles off into a little swamp at the north west part of the pond; it is not more than four rods from the pond to the west bank of Connecticut River, which is, at this place, perhaps, two hundred feet high, and very steep. The high-way passes between the pond and the bank; at this place there are great numbers of fine perch caught in this pond, sometimes to the amount of two or three barrels in a year. At the first settlement of the country, some were caught that weighed about three pounds.—The bottom is very hard; in the driest season the water is not more than two feet lower than at its greatest height.

The other pond is in the township of Brunswick, in the northern part of the state; it is also about four or five rods west of the top of the bank of Connecticut River, and is about twice as large as the former pond. The top of the bank between the pond and the river is a sharp spruce ridge, about fifteen or twenty feet higher than the surface of the pond, and perhaps one hundred and fifty feet higher than the river. There is a small brook runs

into the pond, but no outlet above ground; but about half way down the river bank, which is very steep, there issues a considerable stream of water, perfectly clear, but the bottom of the channel in which it runs is covered a considerable thickness with a red, or rather deep orange coloured substance, and has a very strong smell, resembling the scowering of a foul musket, or rather a stale egg when broken; the smell can easily be perceived at some distance beyond the river, the taste is very disagreeable, the water in the pond is perfectly sweet and good; the horizontal distance from the edge of the pond to this outlet, is not more than six or seven rods.—The pond is called the Mineral Pond, and the outlet the Mineral Spring. There are also plenty of perch in this pond.

Query, how came fishes first into these little ponds which are unconnected with any stream?

J. W.



LAW INTELLIGENCE.

Court of Kings Bench. Feb. 18.

Jeffries versus the Commissioners of the Debts of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales.

THIS was an action to recover from the commissioners, appointed by the late act of parliament for the payment of the Prince of Wales's debts, the sum of *fifty-four thousand six hundred and eighty-five pounds*, for sundry valuable jewels furnished by the plaintiff, for her royal highness the Princess of Wales's wedding.

Mr. Erskine opened the case on the part of the plaintiff. He stated that

that the jewels for which the present action was commenced, had been furnished by the order of the heir apparent to the crown of England, to adorn the person of his illustrious consort the Princess of Wales on her wedding day, an event that had filled the heart of every loyal Englishman with joy. —The order for these jewels was the largest order ever received by any jeweller in this country. The arrival of her royal highness in England naturally raised the price of jewels in the market; and in consequence of the intended marriage of her royal highness having been appointed to take place a short time subsequent to the order being given, the plaintiff, of consequence was obliged to procure these valuable articles with great speed. Those circumstances, he said, must naturally tend to throw many difficulties in the plaintiff's way, and to enhance the price of the jewels. In a demand like the present the most liberal allowance ought to be made. It should be taken into consideration the difficulty of executing so large an order, the rank of the parties for whom the jewels were intended, and the risk the plaintiff run with respect to the time of payment, &c. The counsel then said, that he should call several respectable witnesses, who could prove that the sum of 54,685 pounds was, under all the circumstances, a fair and reasonable price.

Several diamond merchants of great eminence were then called, who gave it as their opinion, that the money charged for these jewels, taking all the relative circumstances into consideration, was a fair and reasonable charge. Some

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of these witnesses differed in some respect as to the value of them.

The defence to this action was, that these jewels were considerably overcharged, for that taking every circumstance into consideration, and making every reasonable allowance, the plaintiff would have a fair profit, and be justly paid on receiving the sum of 45,700l.

Mr. Garrow addressed the jury on behalf of the commissioners, who, he said, had faithfully discharged their duty to the public, in bringing this cause before a jury.

Several eminent jewellers were then called, who had estimated the jewels in question, and were of opinion, that 45,700l. was a reasonable price under all the circumstances of the case. All these witnesses admitted, that this was the largest order ever known. They never had such a one.

Mr. Erskine, in reply, said, that his judgment was at all times very open to error, even when it was not drawn out of its course by the bias of his situation as counsel in a cause, much more when it is liable to be misled by that just and natural prepossession. But that if he did not deceive himself more grossly than he could possibly admit to be probable with a man of the least experience in the profession or in the world, he was beyond all question entitled to the verdict of the jury.

He then stated the value put upon his jewels by his witnesses, men of the greatest experience, and wholly disinterested. Their judgment, he said, was not the judgment of pedlars looking at wares, and comparing them with the ordinary market; but looking with a large, comprehensive, and liberal

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liberal view into the situations of the contracting parties at the time of the contract, estimating the probable difficulties that the jeweller called upon in the instant to comply with an order admitted never to have been given before to an English tradesman, and which therefore mocked all these narrow and technical calculations which could have no foundation but in similar circumstances, which, it was admitted, had never before existed. Looking at the contract with the view in which the prince saw it, taking into the scale of their judgments the rise of the market in consequence of the order, the number of useless jewels to be purchased in making out so grand an assortment, the great sum advanced, and the diamonds purchased on credit, the risque of the purchase, the protracted payment, independently of risque, they had fixed the value at 50,991l. 10s. which sum he demanded of the jury for his client. What was the answer to this estimate?

Three jewellers were produced, originally chosen by the defendants to support them, and to maintain the very defence before the court; all men of character he had no doubt, but subject to the common infirmities which attended the best and wisest men.

Their understandings were biased from the beginning; they gave an original judgment on one side, and the learning of their minds went self-evidently to support it. The first estimate has been forty-four thousand eight hundred pounds, which they had certified was on a transient view; yet after spending a whole day, and taking the weights of the diamonds, their judgments did not vary a penny from their first opinion formed up-

on their own declaration, without the materials for judging. This was almost an impossible coincidence, and shewed they were anchored upon their first and imperfect judgment.

They had also said they had deducted on the second view from defects in the diamonds not estimated before, and yet the sum continued still the same. This was equally absurd and impossible the other way.

But another contradiction prevailed between the certificate and the evidence of its authors, which he could find no gentler term for than by asserting it to be a gross and stupid contradiction. They had stated in terms that an allowance should be made to Mr. Jeffries beyond the value of the diamonds, for the exorbitant price he probably had to pay under the pressure of the necessity arising from his contract, and from other incalculable risks. One of the witnesses (Dr. Duval) had estimated this allowance to be four or five thousand pounds, and yet the very same man said he considered that allowance not as an allowance of right, but of indulgence, to prevent an action, although he (Mr. Erskine) had been interrupted by Mr. Garrow to be reminded that no action was ever in contemplation when the certificate was given. He did not wish, he said, to make harsh observations, and would therefore leave the decency of that evidence to the consciences and understandings of the jury. But he would ask any man of common sense, whether the exorbitant price at which the seller must acquire the materials sold, and the risks he must run in completing the contract, are to be reckoned as emergencies from the buyer. It was
most

most obvious that it was of the very essence of the contract, and a claim of justice and of law upon the consumer. Mr. Garrow had admitted that point. He had stated the commissioners wished to put the cause upon the existing circumstances. It was a political phrase, and evidently used by the learned counsel from his instructions, which made him sure of the quarter from which the instructions came. They were phrases familiar to some connected with the cause. Whenever either individuals, or the public, were to be overreached, the existing circumstances were still the pretext and the protection. He could therefore trace the brief to its true source. It reminded him of Goldsmith's Vicar of Wakefield, where the man who committed the robbery was discovered by his talking in an ale house about the cosmogony, or the creation of the world, under cover of which pretended learning (for he had only these two words) he had humbugged the Vicar out of his money. In the same manner the people of England now began to smother the existing circumstances, and to discover they were humbugged and cheated by men who were feeding on the bowels of the country.

He never saw indeed the existing circumstance before honestly introduced, as it was only under the existing circumstances that Mr. Jeffries sought to substantiate his claim before the jury.

Mr. Erskine then said, that the support of the prince to the honest claims of his creditors reflected great honour upon him, and that the resistance to their fair demands by frivolous objections of those who ought to satisfy them, exposed his royal highness to the very

difficulties from which the act was passed professedly to relieve him. For that if tradesmen were obliged to disclose the secrets of their trade in order to enforce their demand before the commissioners, they would come before a jury who knew such a proceeding to be unprecedented and unjust.

He thought the difference in question not worth the time it had occupied—that the splendor of an English court was the last money which an English public would grudge. It encouraged the arts; it promoted manufacture; it advanced that condition of social life which was the very sinews of a commercial country, and only brought round in the brisk circulation of commerce, the specie of the kingdom from one English subject to another. This, the spirit of Englishmen, would think a small tax upon themselves, compared with those heaped upon them without measure or mercy. The high spirit of Englishmen had been talked of. He saw but little of it, but he hoped it still existed, and that it would resent, and would one day bring to justice those who, while they were counting shillings, upon occasions where a liberal spirit should govern the estimate, were swallowed up in a grave of an unlimited and foreign expenditure, the best blood and the real monied interest of Great Britain.

Mr. Erskine said, that though he was not in the prince's service, he retained for him his ancient affection, and that he hoped the time would come when those irregularities of expences which had produced the act, and every thing belonging to it, so much to be lamented, would be lost in the splendor of the future reign of a patri-

ot king, who would one day shew that he was ready to repay the people of England for his share of their burthens, by attending to their real interests, and by destroying the corrupt system which created them, exerting himself to regenerate that constitution which his ancestors were called into Great Britain to protect.

Lord Kenyon was of opinion that the commissioners had discharged an important duty to the public, in defending this action.

The jury withdrew for about twenty minutes, and returned with a verdict for the plaintiff, damages 50,997l. 10s.



Singular Circumstance.

IN 1747, a man was broken alive on the wheel at Orleans, for a highway robbery: and not having friends to bury his body, when the executioner concluded he was dead, he gave him to a surgeon, who had him carried to his anatomical theatre, as a subject to lecture on. The thighs, legs, and arms, of this unhappy wretch, had been broken; yet, on the surgeon's coming to examine him, he found him reviving; and, by the application of proper cordials, he was soon brought to his speech.

The surgeon and his pupils, moved by the sufferings and solicitations of the robber, determined on attempting his cure: but he was so mangled, that his two thighs, and one of his arms, were amputated. Notwithstanding this mutilation, and the loss of blood, he recovered: and in this situation, the surgeon, by his own desire, had him conveyed in a cart fifty leagues from Orleans, where,

as he said, he intended to gain his livelihood by begging.

His situation was on the road side, close by a wood: and his deplorable condition excited compassion from all who saw him. In his youth, he had served in the army: and he now passed for a soldier, who had lost his limbs by a cannon shot.

A drover returning from market, where he had been selling cattle, was solicited by the robber for charity; and, being moved by compassion, threw him a piece of silver. "Alas!" said the robber, "I cannot reach it—you see I have neither arms nor legs," for he had concealed his arm, which had been preserved, behind his back: "so, for the sake of heaven, put your charitable donation into my pouch."

The drover approached him: and, as he stooped to reach up the money, the sun shining, he saw a shadow on the ground, which caused him to look up; when he perceived the arm of the beggar elevated over his head, and his hand grasping a short iron bar. He arrested the blow in its descent; and seizing the robber, carried him to his cart, into which having thrown him, he drove off to the next town, which was very near, and brought his prisoner before a magistrate.

On searching him, a whistle was found in his pocket; which naturally induced a suspicion, that he had accomplices in the wood: the magistrate, therefore, instantly ordered a guard to the place where the robber had been seized; and they arrived within half an hour after the murder of the drover had been attempted.

The guard having concealed themselves behind different trees, the

the whistle was blown, the sound of which, was remarkably shrill and loud: and another whistle was heard from under ground, three men at the same instant rising from the midst of a bushy clump of brambles, and other dwarf shrubs. The soldiers fired on them, and they fell. The bushes were searched, and a descent was discovered into a cave. Here were found three young girls and a boy. The girls were kept for the offices of servants, and the purposes of lust; the boy, scarcely twelve years of age, was son to one of the robbers. The girls in giving evidence deposed, that they had lived three years in the cave; that they had been kept there by force from the time of their captivity; that dead bodies were frequently carried into the cave, stripped, and buried; and that the old soldier was carried out every dry day; and sat by the road side for two or three hours.

On this evidence, the murdering mendicant was condemned to suffer a second execution on the wheel. As but one arm remained, it was to be broken by several strokes in several places: and a *coup de grace* being denied, he lived in tortures for near five days. When dead, his body was burned to ashes, and strewed before the winds of heaven.



Anecdote of Dr. John Thomas.

WHEN Dr. John Thomas, (who died bishop of Salisbury in 1776) was chaplain to the British factory at Hamburg, a gentleman of the factory being ill, was ordered into the country for the benefit of the air. Accordingly

he went to a village at about ten miles distance, but after some time died there: upon this, application was made to the parson of the parish, for leave to bury him in the church-yard. The parson inquired what his religion was; and was told that he was a Calvinist:—"No," says he, "there are none but Lutherans in my church-yard, and there shall be no other." "This," said Dr. Thomas, "was told me: and I wondered that a man of any learning or understanding should have such ideas. I resolved to go and argue the matter with him; but found him inflexible: at length I told him he made me think of a circumstance which once happened to myself, when I was curate of a church in Thames street. I was burying a corpse, and a woman came and pulled me by the sleeve in the midst of the service—"Sir, sir, I want to speak to you"—"prithee wait, woman, till I have done"—"no sir, I must speak to you immediately"—"Well then, what is the matter?" "Why, sir, you are going to bury a man who died of the small pox, near my poor husband, who never had it." "This story," continued he, "had the desired effect: and the curate permitted the bones of the poor Calvinist to be laid in the church-yard."



Historical Anecdote.

WHEN Christian, Duke of Brunswick, was employed in the siege of Leipzig, his army lay encamped in the vicinity of a rich monastery. In a case of a sudden exigence, he requested the friars to assist his present necessities, either by money or provisions, promising

promising faithfully to repay them. As he was a Protestant, they, under pretence of poverty, refused his request, and he had in vain endeavoured to negotiate a loan with some distant bankers. The duke, in great anger, went in person, with a detachment of soldiers, and took possession of the monastery. Upon entering the chapel, he saw images of the twelve apostles, and divers other saints, in

massy silver. The duke asked certain of the friars who those old fashioned gentlemen were? They answered, the twelve apostles. "The twelve apostles (exclaimed the duke) why they were ordered to go abroad amongst all nations, and ought not to be detained here as prisoners." So, without hesitation, he commanded them to be taken down, and coined into rix dollars for the use of his troops.



HISTORY OF THE JEWS.

[Continued from page 204.]

THE Jewish nation was by this time divided into two very opposite parties: the one foreseeing that this war, if continued, must end in the total ruin of their country, were for putting an end to it by submitting to the Romans; the other, which was the remains of the faction of Judas Gaulonites, breathed nothing but war and confusion, and opposed all peaceable measures with invincible obstinacy. This last, which was by far the most numerous and powerful, consisted of men of the vilest and most profligate characters that can be paralleled in history. They were proud, ambitious, cruel, rapacious, and committed the most horrid and unnatural crimes under the mask of religion. They affirmed every where, that it was offering the greatest dishonour to God to submit to an earthly potentate; much less to Romans and to heathens.

This, they said, was the only motive that induced them to take up arms, and to bind themselves under the strictest obligations not to lay them down till they had ei-

ther wholly extirpated all foreign authority, or perished in the attempt.—This dreadful dissension was not confined to Jerusalem, but had infected all the cities, towns, and villages of Palestine. Even houses and families were so divided against each other, that, as our Saviour had expressly foretold, a man's greatest enemies were often those of his own family and household. In short, if we may believe Josephus, the zealots acted more like incarnate devils than like men who had any sense of humanity left them.—This obliged the contrary party likewise to rise up in arms in their own defence against those miscreants; from whom, however, they suffered much more than they did even from the exasperated Romans.—The zealots began their outrages by murdering all that opposed them in the countries round about. Then they entered Jerusalem: but met with a stout opposition from the other party headed by Ananus, who had lately been high priest. A fierce engagement ensued between them; and the zealots were driven

driven into the inner cincture of the temple, where they were closely besieged. John of Gischala above mentioned, who had pretended to side with the peaceable party, was then sent with terms of accommodation; but, instead of advising the besieged to accept of them, he persuaded them still to hold out, and call the Idumeans to their assistance. They did so, and procured 20,000 of them to come to their relief; but these new allies were refused admittance into the city. On that night, however, there happened such a violent storm, accompanied with thunder, lightning, and an earthquake, that the zealots from within the inner court sawed the bolts and hinges of the temple gates without being heard, forced the guards of the besiegers, sallied into the city, and led in the Idumeans. The city was instantly filled with butcheries of the most horrid kind. Barely to put any of the opposite party to death was thought too mild a punishment; they must have the pleasure of murdering them by inches: so that they made it now their diversion to put them to the most exquisite tortures that could be invented; nor could they be prevailed upon to dispatch them till the violence of their torments had rendered them quite incapable of feeling them. In this manner perished 12,000 persons of noble extraction, and in the flower of their age; till at last the Idumeans complained so much against the putting such numbers to death, that the zealots thought proper to erect a kind of tribunal, which, however, was intended not for judgment but condemnation; for the judges having once acquitted a person who was manifestly innocent, the zealots not

only murdered him in the temple, but deposed the new created judges as persons unfit for their office.

The zealots, after having exterminated all those of any character or distinction, began next to wreak their vengeance on the common people. This obliged many of the Jews to forsake Jerusalem, and take refuge with the Romans, though the attempt was very hazardous; for the zealots had all the avenues well guarded, and failed not to put to death such as fell into their hands. Vespasian in the mean time staid at Cæsarea, an idle spectator of their outrages; well knowing that the zealots were fighting for him, and that the strength of the Jewish nation was gradually wasting away. Every thing succeeded to his wish. The zealots, after having massacred or driven away the opposite party, turned their arms against each other. A party was formed against John, under one Simon, who had his head quarters at the fortress of Massada. This new miscreant plundered, burned, and massacred, wherever he came, carrying the spoil into the fortress above mentioned. To increase his party, he caused a proclamation to be published, by which he promised liberty to the slaves, and proportionable encouragement to the freemen who joined him.— This stratagem had the desired effect, and he soon saw himself at the head of a considerable army.— Not thinking himself, however, as yet master of force sufficient to besiege Jerusalem, he invaded Idumea with 20,000 men. The Idumeans opposed him with 25,000; and a sharp engagement ensued, in which neither party was victorious. But Simon, soon after, having corrupted the Idumean general

eral, got their army delivered up to him. By this means he easily became master of the country; where he committed such cruelties, that the miserable inhabitants abandoned it to seek for shelter in Jerusalem.

In the city, matters went in the same way. John tyrannized in such a manner, that the Idumeans revolted, killed a great number of his men, plundered his palace, and forced him to retire into the temple. In the mean time the people, having taken a notion that he would sally out in the night and set fire to the city, called a council, in which it was resolved to admit Simon with his troops, in order to oppose John and his zealots. Simon's first attempt against his rival, however, was ineffectual, and he was obliged to content himself with besieging the zealots in the temple. In the mean time the miseries of the city were increased by the starting up of a third party, headed by one Eleazer, who seized on the court of the priests, and kept John confined within that of the Israelites. Eleazer kept the avenues so well guarded that none were admitted to come into that part of the temple but those who came thither to offer sacrifices, and it was by these offerings chiefly that he maintained himself and his men. John by this means found himself hemmed in between two powerful enemies, Simon below, and Eleazer above. He defended himself, however, against them both with great resolution; and when the city was invested by the Romans, having pretended to come to an agreement with his rivals, he found means totally to cut off or force Eleazer's men to submit to him, so that the factious were again reduced to two.

The Romans, in the year seventy-two, began to advance towards the capital. In their way they destroyed many thousands, wasting the country as they went along; and in the year 73 arrived before the walls of Jerusalem, under Titus afterwards emperor. As he was a man of an exceeding merciful disposition, and greatly desired to spare the city, he immediately sent offers of peace; but these were rejected with contempt, and he himself put in great danger of his life, so that he resolved to begin the siege in form. In the mean time, Simon and John renewed their hostilities with greater fury than ever. John now held the whole temple, some of the out-parts of it, and the valley of Cedron. Simon had the whole city to range in; in some parts of which John had made such devastations, that they served them for a field of battle, from which they sallied unanimously against the common enemy whenever occasion served; after which they returned to their usual hostilities, turning their arms against each other, as if they had sworn to make their ruin more easy to the Romans. These drew still nearer to the walls, having with great labour and pains levelled all the ground between Scopas and them, by pulling down all the houses and hedges, cutting down the trees, and even cleaving the rocks that stood in their way, from Scopas to the tomb of Herod, and Bethara or the pool of serpents; in which work so many hands were employed, that they finished it in four days.

Whilst this was doing, Titus sent the besieged some offers of peace; and Josephus was pitched upon to be the messenger of them: but they were rejected with indignation.

nation. He sent a second time Nicanor and Josephus with fresh offers, and the former received a wound in his shoulder; upon which Titus resolved to begin the assault in good earnest, and ordered his men to raise the suburbs, cut down all the trees, and use the materials to raise platforms against the wall. Every thing was now carried on with invincible ardour; the Romans began to play their engines against the city with all their might. The Jews had likewise their machines upon the walls, which they plied with uncommon fury: they had taken them lately from Cestius; but were so ignorant in their use, that they did little execution with them, till they were better instructed by some Roman deserters: till then, their chief success was rather owing to their frequent sallies: but the Roman legions, who had all their towers and machines before them, made terrible havock. The least stones they threw were near 100 weight; and these they could throw the length of a quarter of a mile against the city, and with such a force, that they could do mischief on those that stood some distance behind them. Titus having reared three towers fifty cubits high; one of which happening to fall in the middle of night, greatly alarmed the Roman camp, who immediately ran to arms at the noise of it; but Titus, upon knowing the cause dismissed them, and caused it to be set up again. These towers, being plated with iron, the Jews tried in vain to set fire to them, but were at length forced to retire out of the reach of their shot; by which the battering rams were now at full liberty to play against the wall. A breach was soon made in it, at

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which the Romans entered; and the Jews abandoning this last inclosure, retired behind the next. This happened about the 28th of April, a fortnight after the beginning of the siege.

John defended the temple and the castle of Antonia, and Simon the rest of the city. Titus marched close to the second wall and plied his battering rams so furiously, that one of the towers which looked towards the north gave a prodigious shake. The men who were in it made a signal to the Romans, as if they would surrender; and, at the same time, sent Simon word to be ready to give them a warm reception. Titus, having discovered their stratagem, plied his work more furiously, whilst the Jews that were in the tower set it on fire, and flung themselves into the flames. The tower being fallen, gave them an entrance into the second inclosure, five days after gaining the first; and Titus, who was bent on saving the city, would not suffer any part of the wall or streets to be demolished; which left the breach and lanes so narrow, that when his men were furiously repulsed by Simon, they had no room enough to make a quick retreat, so that there was a number of them killed in it. This oversight was quickly rectified; and the attack renewed with such vigor, that the place was carried four days after their first repulse.

The famine, raging in a terrible manner in the city, was soon followed by a pestilence; and these two dreadful judgments increased, so did the rage of the factions, who, by their intestine feuds had destroyed such quantities of provision, that they were forced to prey upon the people with the

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most unheard-of cruelty. They forced their houses; and, if they found any victuals in them, they butchered them for not apprising them of it; and, if they found nothing but bare walls, which was almost every where the case, they put them to the most severe tortures, under pretence that they had some provision concealed. "I should (says Josephus) undertake an impossible task, were I to enter into a detail of all the cruelties of those impious wretches; it will be sufficient to say, that I do not think, that since the creation any city ever suffered such dreadful calamities, or abounded with men so fertile in all kinds of wickedness."

Titus, who knew their miserable condition, and was still willing to spare them, gave them four days to cool; during which he caused his army to be mustered, and provisions to be distributed to them in sight of the Jews, who flocked upon the walls to see it. Josephus was sent to speak to them afresh, and to exhort them not to run themselves into an inevitable ruin by obstinately persisting in the defence of a place which could hold out but a very little while, and which the Romans looked upon already as their own. But this stubborn people, after many bitter invectives, began to dart their arrows at him; at which, not at all discouraged, he went on with greater vehemence; but all the effect it wrought on them was, that it prevailed on great numbers to steal away privately to the Romans, whilst the rest became only the more desperate and resolute to hold out to the last, in spite of Titus's merciful offers.

To hasten therefore their destined ruin, he caused the city to be

surrounded with a strong wall, to prevent either their receiving any succours or provision from abroad, or their escaping his resentment by flight. This wall, which was near forty stadia or five miles in circuit, was yet carried on with such speed, and by so many hands, that it was finished in three days; by which one may guess at the ardour of the besiegers to make themselves masters of the city.

There was now nothing to be seen through the streets of Jerusalem but heaps of dead bodies rotting above ground, walking skeletons, and dying wretches. As many as were caught by the Romans in their sallies, Titus caused to be crucified in sight of the town, to strike a terror among the rest: but the zealots gave it out, that they were those who fled to him for protection; which when Titus understood, he sent a prisoner with his hands cut off to undeceive, and assure them, that he spared all that voluntarily came over to him; which encouraged great numbers to accept his offers, though the avenues were closely guarded by the factious, who put all to death who were caught going on that errand. A greater mischief than that was, that even those who escaped safe to the Roman camp, were miserably butchered by the soldiers, from a notion which these had taken that they had swallowed great quantities of gold: insomuch that two thousand of them were ripped up in one night, to come at their supposed treasure. When Titus was apprized of this barbarity, he would have condemned all those butchering wretches to death; but they proved so numerous, that he was forced to spare them, and contented himself with sending a proclamation through his

his camp, that as many as should be suspected thenceforward of that horrid villany, should be put to immediate death: yet did not this deter many of them from it, only they did it more privately than before; so greedy were they of that bewitching metal. All this while the defection increased still more through the inhumanity of the faction within, who made the miseries and dying groans of their starving brethren the subject of their cruel mirth, and carried their barbarity even to the sheathing of their swords in sport in those poor wretches, under pretence of trying their sharpness.

When they found therefore that neither their guards nor severities could prevent the people's flight, they had recourse to another stratagem equally impious and cruel: which was, to hire a pack of vile pretenders to prophecy, to go about and encourage the despairing remains of the people to expect a speedy and miraculous deliverance; and this imposture proved a greater expedient with that infatuated nation than their other precautions.

Nothing could be more dreadful than the famished condition to which they were now reduced. The poor, having nothing to trust to but the Roman's mercy or a speedy death, ran all hazards to get out of the city; and if in their flight, and wandering out for herbs or any other sustenance, they fell into the hands of any of Titus's parties sent about to guard the avenues, they were unmercifully scourged, and crucified if they made the least resistance. The rich within the walls were now forced, though in the most private

manner, to give half, or all they were worth, for a measure of wheat, and the middling sort for one of barley. This they were forced to convey into some private place in their houses, and to feed upon it as it was, without daring to pound or grind it, much less to boil or bake it, lest the noise or smell should draw the rapacious zealots to come and tear it from them. Not that these were reduced to any real want of provisions, but they had a double end in this barbarous plunder; to wit, the starving what they cruelly styled all useless persons, and the keeping their own stores in reserve. It was upon this sad and pinching juncture, that an unhappy mother was reduced to the extremity of butchering and eating her own child.

When this news was spread through the city, the horror and consternation were as universal as they were inexpressible. It was then that they began to think themselves forsaken by Divine Providence, and to expect the most terrible effects of his anger against the poor remains of their nation; insomuch that they began to envy those that perished before them, and to wish their turn might come before the sad expected catastrophe. Their fears were but too just; since Titus, at the very first hearing of this inhuman deed, swore the total extirpation of city and people. "Since (said he) they have so often refused my proffers of pardon, and have preferred war to peace, rebellion to obedience, and famine, such a dreadful one especially, to plenty, I am determined to bury that accursed metropolis under its ruins, that the sun may never shoot his beams

beams on a city where the mothers they, choose to drive them to such
 feed on the flesh of their children, extremities, rather than lay down
 and the fathers, no less guilty than their arms."

[To be continued.]



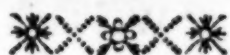
POETICAL ESSAYS.

AN ODE ON THE RETURN OF MAY.

HAIL once again auspicious morn,
 We gladly welcome thy return
 To visit us again ;
 Since we parted with thee last,
 Through various changing scenes we've past,
 But mostly scenes of pain.
 A sad and numerous train of woes,
 Repeated strokes, and heavy blows,
 Mark'd the preceding year :
 But brightning prospects now increase,
 Returning May brings health and peace,
 And banishes our fear.
 Bright Phœbus with refulgent blaze,
 Bears down his kind and quickning rays,
 To warm and cheer the earth ;
 Which in return makes haste to bring
 Her blooming daughters of the spring.
 A million at a birth.
 The feather'd songsters all combine,
 And in harmonious concert join,
 How merrily they sing.
 Partakers of the general joy,
 Their sweetest notes they now employ,
 And make the forest ring.
 The husbandman, delighted, sees
 His gardens and his fruit trees
 All smiling in their bloom ;
 He often leaves his humble cell,
 To feast his eyes, regale his smell,
 And drink the rich perfume.
 He views his fields and meadows round,
 And sees them all with blessings crown'd,
 So fresh, so green, and gay ;
 The prospect of a plentiful crop,
 Inspires him with a cheerful hope,
 And drives his fears away.
 The bounteous being of the skies,
 His every creatures want supplies,
 From his exhaustless store.
 Then let each gift his hand confers,

Lead

Lead us his humble pensioners,
To wonder and adore.



THE NEW RIVER—A Tale.

A GENIUS once incog. came
down
From his equivocal dominions,
And travel'd o'er a country town
To try folks tempers and opin-
ions :
And now the night was pitchy
dark, [spark ;
Without one star's indulgent
At the best house in all the town,
(It was th' attorney's you may
swear)
He knock'd as he'd have beat it
down.
Knock as you would, no entrance
there,
But from the window cried the
dame, [came.
Go, firrah, go, from whence you
Here, Nell, John, Thomas, see
who knocks,
Fellow, I'll put you in the stocks.
He trudg'd away in angry mind,
And thought but cheaply of man-
kind,
Till thro' a casement's dingy pane
A rush light's melancholy ray
Bade him e'en try his luck again ;
So to this cot of homely thatch,
In the same plight the genius came:
Down comes the dame, lifts up the
latch,
What want ye, Sir ? God save you
dame.
And so he told a piteous tale,
Which he successless told before,
Your patience and my own would
fail
Were I to tell it o'er and o'er.
Suffice it, that my goody's care
Brought forth her best, tho' sim-
ple fare.

No matter what was after said,
He eat, and drank, and went to
bed.

The dame and pedlar both arose
At early dawn of rising day,
She to her work of folding cloaths,
And he to travel on his way ;
But much he thought himself to
blame,

If, as in duty surely bound,
He did not thank the careful dame
For the reception he had found.
Hostess, quoth he, before I go,
I thank you for your hearty fare ;
May what you first begin to do
Create such profit and delight,
That you may do it all day thro',
Nor finish till the depth of night.

Thank you, she said, and shut
the door, [no more.
Turn'd to her work, and thought
And now the napkin, which was
spread [brown bread,
To treat her guest with good
She folded up with nicest care,
When lo ! another napkin there !
And every folding did beget
Another and another yet.
She folds a shift—by strange in-
crease

The remnant swells into a piece.
Her caps, her laces, all the same,
Till such a quantity of linen,
From such a very small beginning,
Flow'd in at once upon the dame,
Who wonder'd how the duce it
came

That with the drap'ry she had got,
Within her little shabby cot,
She might for all the town provide,
And break both York street and
Cheapside.

Good

Good news will fly as well as
 bad,
 So out this wond'rous story came,
 About the pedlar and the dame,
 Which made the attorney's wife
 so mad,
 That she resolv'd at any rate,
 Spite of her pride and lady airs,
 To get the pedlar *tête à tête*,
 And make up all the past affairs.
 Now all was racket, noise, and
 pother,
 Nell running one way, John ano-
 ther,
 And Tom was on the coach-horse
 sent, [went.
 To learn which way the pedlar
 Thomas return'd; — the pedlar
 brought,
 So in they came, and for his pick-
 ing
 Behold the table covers spread,
 Instead of Goody's cheese and
 bread,
 With tarts, and fish, and flesh, and
 chicken.
 And more the pedlar to regale,
 And make the wond'rous man her
 friend,
 Decanters foam'd of mantling ale,
 And port and claret without end;
 Till eating, drinking, talking past,
 The kind house-clock struck
 twelve at last,
 The pedlar pleaded weary head,
 Made his low bow, and went to bed.
 The morning came, — when thus
 the guest, —
 For this your entertainment's sake,
 If ought of good my wish can do,
 May what you first shall undertake
 Last without ceasing all day thro'.
 Madam, who kindly understood
 His wish effectually good,
 Strait dropp'd a curtsie wond'rous
 low,
 For much she wanted him to go,
 That she might look up all her
 store,
 And turn it into thousands more.

How shall I now my tale pursue,
 So passing strange, so passing true!
 When every bit from every hoard
 Was brought, and laid upon the
 board,
 Lest some more urgent obligation
 Might interrupt her pleasing toil,
 And marring half her application,
 The promis'd hopes of profit spoil.
 Into the garden she would go,
 To do that necessary thing
 Which must by all be done, you
 know, [low,
 By rich and poor, and high and
 By male and female, queen and
 king.
 She little dream'd a common ac-
 tion,
 Practis'd as duly as her pray'rs,
 Should prove so tedious a transac-
 tion,
 Or cost her such a sea of cares.
 In short, the streams so plentiful
 flow'd,
 That in the dry and dusty weather,
 She might have water'd all the
 road
 For ten or twenty miles together.
 What could she do? as it began,
 Th' involuntary torrent ran.
 Instead of folding cap or mob,
 So dreadful was this distillation,
 That from a single watering job,
 She fear'd a general inundation.
 While for her indiscretion's crime,
 And coveting too great a store,
 She made a river at a time,
 Which sure was never done be-
 fore.



*On the accomplished Miss ———,
 who met with a disappointment in
 a Lottery Ticket.*

FAIR Celia ventur'd for a prize,
 In fortune's random throw;
 The fickle dame her suit denies,
 Nor would the boon bestow.

At

At which Miss Celia turn'd away,
 And said with much disdain—
 "Let them that will their homage
 pay,
 I'll sue no more in vain."
 Dame fortune overheard, and said,
 Ungrateful Celia, why
 Do you with cold neglect upbraid
 A friend so kind as I.
 I gave you wit and beauty too,
 To win ten thousand hearts,
 Of which alone but one can know
 The bliss that love imparts.
 You rather ought to give me
 thanks,
 And pity Strephon's sighs,
 Who sadly thinks how many
 blanks
 Must be to such a prize!



Written by a Young Lady to some others, with whom she had agreed to make up a protestant Nunnery, but afterwards altered her mind.

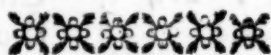
ALL attendants apart,
 I examin'd my heart,

Last night when I laid me to rest:
 And methinks I'm inclin'd
 To a change of my mind:
 For you know second thoughts are
 the best.

To retire from the crowd,
 And make ourselves good,
 By avoiding of ev'ry temptation—
 Is, in truth, to reveal,
 What we'd better conceal,
 That our passions want some regu-
 tion.

It will much more redound
 To our praise, to be found
 In a world so abounding with evil,
 Unspotted and pure,
 Though not quite demure,
 And to wage open war with the
 devil.

So bidding farewell
 To the thoughts of a cell,
 I'll prepare for this militant life:
 And if brought to distress,
 Why then I'll confess,
 And do penance in form of a wife.



THE BIRDS NEST.

YES, little nest, I'll hold you fast,
 And little birds, one, two, three, four:
 I've watch'd you long: you're mine at last;
 Poor little things! you'll 'scape no more.
 Chirp, cry, and flutter as you will,
 Ah! simple rebels, 'tis in vain.
 Your little wings are unfledg'd still:
 How can you freedom then obtain?
 What note of sorrow strikes my ear?
 Is it their mother thus distress'd?
 Ah yes—and see, their father dear
 Flies round and round, to seek their nest.
 And is it I, who cause their moan?
 I, who so oft have in summer's heat,
 Beneath yon oak have laid me down,
 To listen to their song so sweet?

If from my tender mother's side
 Some wicked wretch should make me fly,
 Full well I know, 'twould her betide,
 To break her heart, to sink, to die.
 And shall I, then, so cruel prove,
 Your little ones to force away?
 No, no: together live and love.
 See, here they are—take them, I pray.
 Teach them in yonder wood to fly:
 And let them your soft warbling hear,
 Till their own wings can soar as high,
 And their own notes may sound as clear.
 Go, gentle birds; go, free as air!
 While oft again in summer's heat,
 To yonder oak I will repair,
 And listen to your songs so sweet.

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